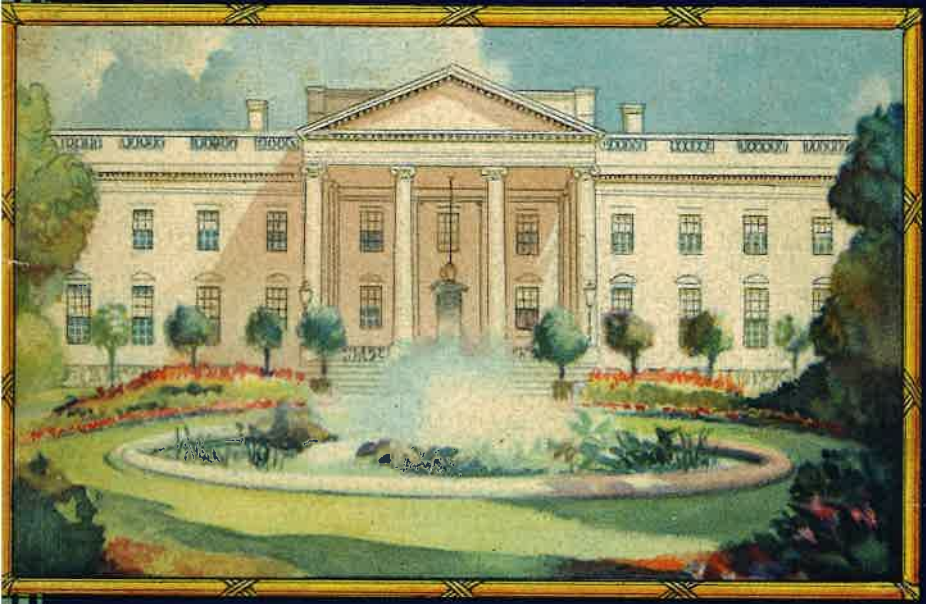
The Story of the WHITE HOUSE



. . and its Home Life

A MODERN PACKAGE

but the same flavory blend served in President Cleveland's time

PREFACE

THE STORY OF THE WHITE HOUSE *was first published and widely distributed by our Company in 1903. That booklet, as originally prepared by Wayne Whipple with the valuable assistance of the Hon. A. R. Spofford (former Librarian of Congress), is now reproduced. It tells the story to the start of the Twentieth Century.*

Since then world progress has been amazing and life has moved at a rapid pace. The one person who has lived in and seen the most of the home life of the presidents' families occupying the White House since 1901 is Alice Roosevelt Longworth, oldest daughter of President Theodore Roosevelt. It is to her, therefore, that we have turned and to her we extend our appreciation for this story from 1901 to date.

We have tried to present a plain connected account of the White House as the temporary home of its honored occupants . . . a story of interest to the millions of other American homes in which it will be read.

DWINELL-WRIGHT COMPANY

A copy of this book will be mailed on receipt of 15¢ in stamps.
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THE STORY
of the
WHITE HOUSE
and its
HOME LIFE

by

WAYNE WHIPPLE

and completed by

ALICE ROOSEVELT LONGWORTH

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Pages
A Brilliant Administration	30
After the Coffee is Over	62
A Heart of Oak	37, 38
Architecture and Furnishings Change	48
A Short Sad Term	44
Bachelor President	35
Bereavements	45, 46
Children's Paradise	49
Children's Laughter Resounds Again	59
Daguerreotype, Invention of	31
Desperate Slander	24
Dolly Madison's Heroism	19, 20
Do You Know?	9
Enter Dolly Madison	16
Executive Mansion becomes White House	21, 51
First Tenants of White House	12, 13
Funerals	30, 31, 34, 37, 41, 42, 44, 46, 48, 56, 58
Gay Parties	49, 50, 51
Gentleman President	44
Golfing President	52
Grant Regime	42
Hayes Administration	43
Hero of New Orleans	24
Ice Cream Introduced to Washington	28

Illustrations

Adams, Birthplace of John	15
Adams, Charles Francis, George Washington	23
Adams, John, wife Abigail	10, 23
Adams, John Quincy, wife Louisa Catherine	10, 23
Arlington Tomb 56, Amphitheatre	57
Arthur, Chester A.	39
Buchanan, James, niece Harriet Lane	26
Burns', David, Cottage	8
Campaign Cabin	29
Capitol Dome 7, Day Time 51, Night Time	52
Clay, Henry	32
Cleveland, Grover, wife Frances Folsom	47
Cleveland Inauguration	45
Coolidge, Calvin, wife Grace Goodhue	55
Coolidge, Calvin Birthplace 59, Desk 58, Home	58
Donelson, Andrew Jackson 27, Emily	18
Early Automobile	53
Fillmore, Millard, wife Abigail	26
Four Generations	46
Garfield, James Abram, wife Lucretia Rudolph	39
Garfield, Eliza Ballou	44
Gouverneur, Maria Monroe	22
Grant, Nellie	42
Grant, Ulysses S., wife Julia Dent	39
Harding Memorial	57
Harding, Warren G., wife Florence Kling	55
Harrison, Benjamin, wife Caroline Scott	47
Harrison, William Henry	18
Hay, Eliza Monroe	21
Hayes, Rutherford B., wife Lucy Webb	39
Hermitage, Nashville, Tennessee	25
Hoover, Herbert, Birthplace 60, Home	60
Hoover, Herbert C., wife Lou Henry	55
Irving, Washington	31
Jackson, Andrew 18 and 27, wife Rachel	28
Jackson, Sarah Yorke	18
Japanese Cherry Trees	54
Japanese Embassy	36
Jefferson, Thomas	10
Johnson, Andrew, wife Eliza McCardle	39
Leinster Palace	11
Lincoln, Abraham, wife Mary Todd	26
Lincoln, with Tad	37
McElroy, Mary Arthur	39
McKinley, William, wife Ida Saxton	47
Madison House	19
Madison, James, wife Dorothy Payne	10
Marine Band	53
"Mayflower," Presidential Yacht	57
Monroe, James 10, wife Eliza Kortright	10, 21
Monticello	14
Montpellier	14
Morse, Samuel, F. B.	31
Mount Vernon	14
Nation's Parlor	25
Oak Hill	14
Patterson, Martha Johnson	39
Pierce, Franklin, wife Jane Appleton	26
Polk, James Knox, wife Sarah Childress	18
Potomac River, from White House	13
President's Bedroom	36
Rachel's Miniature	28
Randolph, Martha Jefferson	16
Rapidan River, Fishing Camp	59
Roosevelt, Children	50
Roosevelt, Franklin Delano, wife Anna Eleanor	55
Roosevelt, Franklin Delano, Residence 60, Sloop	61
Roosevelt, Theodore, wife Edith Carow	47
Sumner, Charles	35
Taft, William Howard, wife Helen Herron	47
Taylor, General and Old Whitey	33
Taylor, Zachary	26
Tylers' Departure	32
Tyler, John, wives Julia G., Letitia C.	18
Van Buren, Martin, daughter in law Angelica	18
Velocipede	24
War is Over	38
Washington, George, wife Martha	10
Washington Memorial 51, View from	7
Webster, Daniel	30
White House, 1800-12, Blue Room	43
Cabinet Room 49, Conservatories	42
Entrance 7, Executive Offices 49, Gardens	52
Green Room 44, Kitchen 41, Library	34
Northern Elevation 1792 11, Portico	54
North Front 1814 20, Red Room	46
South Front	50
State Dining Room, Old 62, New	62
Wilcox Residence, Buffalo, New York	48
Wilson, Woodrow, wives Edith G., Ellen A.	55
Wilson, Woodrow, Birthplace	56
Inception of White House	7, 11
Jackson's Farewell	28
Japanese Cherry Trees	53
Jeffersonian Simplicity	15
Jefferson's Devotion to Daughters	15
Last Lady of White House in Kitchen	41, 42
Laying of the White House Cornerstone	7
Louisiana Purchase	21
Martyrdom	38, 41
Master Magician	29
Medicine Ball Cabinet	59
Monroe Doctrine	22
Navy President	60
New England's Coolidges	56, 57
Old Dominion and Old Colony	14
Old Hickory	27
Old Rough and Ready	33, 34
Peace Again	56
People's Idol	25
Perfect Host	23
Polk, Dallas and Texas	32
President for a Month	29
Rumblings of War	35
Sacking of Washington	19
Telegraph, Invention of	31
Tennis Cabinet	51
The Second Roosevelt	60
The Clevelands Twice	44, 45
The Tylers Leave	32
Third Martyr President	46
Two Hostesses	27
Virginia, The Mother of Presidents	14
Weddings	22, 24, 31, 42, 43, 45, 54, 56
World War	54
Youngest President	48

THE STORY OF THE
WHITE HOUSE
AND ITS HOME LIFE

IF the dome of the Capitol is the head of the United States, the White House is the Nation's heart. The White House was first called "The Palace of the President," but the plain people of the United States did not like that name. They called it "the President's House." Its official title was "the Executive Mansion." The people prefer to think of it as a house—the home of the President and of the "First-Lady-in-the-Land."

It is as a home that the White House appeals to the American heart. No true American can behold this plain, unpretentious edifice without a thrill of patriotism. Viewed from the street, it stands there in the simplicity of true greatness. From the top of the Washington Monument, it seems like a rare pearl set in emeralds, overarched with sapphire and glittering in the burnished gold of southern sunshine. Our regard for it grows with our knowledge of its history and sacred traditions.

From the Top of the Washington Monument

Washington and the White House

George and Martha Washington never lived in the White House. Washington presided at the laying of its cornerstone—the 13th of October, 1792—exactly three hundred years after the landing of Columbus. As the first Ex-President, Washington was profoundly interested in the building of a presidential mansion. He wielded his mighty influence to bring about the erection of a creditable residence for the Chief Magistrate of the Nation. He made numerous visits to the "Federal City," as he always

called the site that was afterwards to bear his name. One of his last earthly pilgrimages was to the "palace" of his successors.

The gratitude of the Nation manifested itself in the half-idolatrous reverence which the Father-of-his-Country received during his last days. But there was one man, an old Scotch planter, on whose land several government buildings now stand—this man, David Burns, did not join in the grand chorus of adulation. He lived in a little cottage between the hill chosen for the President's mansion and the Potomac River. He seems to have been indifferent to the fact that all that was going on around him would greatly enhance the value of the real estate he still owned. He hampered the work of building in every conceivable way and made himself a national nuisance.

David Burns' Cottage

One day Washington attempted to remonstrate with him, and expatiated on the pecuniary advantages Mr. Burns would derive from the proximity of his remaining property to the presidential palace. At last he lost his patience and reminded the obdurate Scot that, if the "Federal City" had not been located there, David Burns would have lived and died a poor tobacco planter.

Davie Burns' Scotch was up in an instant. "Aye, mon," he retorted, "and if *you* hadn't married the widow Custis with all her niggers, you would be a land surveyor to-day, and *a mighty poor one at that!*"

Washington must have been struck with the novelty of this notion. It is no wonder that he referred to that "braw Scot," in a letter to a friend, as "the obstinate Mr. Burns."

In 1800

GEORGE WASHINGTON.
First President, 1789-1797.
Federalist.
Born, 1732. Died, 1799.
Vice-President, John Adams.
Establishment of United States Government.
Regulation of Commerce.
Vermont, Kentucky and Tennessee admitted to Union.
Indian Wars.
Whiskey Insurrection.
The Jay Treaty with Great Britain.

An English writer refers to the national Capital in 1800 as "a place of brick-kilns and laborers' huts." "About forty brick houses," he continues,—"the remainder wooden huts—the streets and avenues cut through the woods. Pennsylvania Avenue, leading from the Capitol to the Executive Mansion, was a deep morass covered with alder bushes."

It so happened that the Nation had to provide for the Capitol building and the President's residence both at the same time. Some "watch-dogs of the treasury" inveighed against the wanton extravagance of erecting two buildings. One was enough; either the President could live in a wing of the Capitol, or the two Houses of Congress could meet in the Executive

Do you know . . .

Of what material was the White House built and how long was it in building? *Pg. 11*

Who was the first President to live in the White House? *Pg. 12*

From what two states did the first six Presidents come? *Pg. 15*

By what foreign power was the White House burned? *Pg. 20*

What President had a telescope mounted on the White House roof? *Pg. 24*

At what occasion did crowds throng into the White House, muddying the carpets and destroying dishes and furniture? *Pg. 27*

By whom was ice cream introduced to Washington and thus to the American table? *Pg. 28*

What President and family were left at the dock by a ferryman? *Pg. 32*

Who were "Rough and Ready" and "Old Whitey"? *Pg. 33*

Who was the last mistress of the White House who worked regularly in the kitchen preparing food? *Pg. 42*

What did Mrs. Hayes purchase for the White House with money saved from the entertainment appropriation? *Pg. 43*

What President was married in the White House and who was the first child of a President born in the White House? *Pg. 45*

In whose administration did the Executive Mansion become the White House and how? *Pg. 21,51*

Martha Washington
George Washington
John Adams
Abigail Adams
Dorothy Payne Madison
Thomas Jefferson
James Madison
James Monroe
Eliza Kortright Monroe
John Quincy Adams
Louisa Catherine Adams

Mansion, making one edifice serve both public and private uses. But, thanks to Washington and many others, liberal counsels prevailed, and a sum of about three hundred thousand dollars was finally obtained for building and furnishing the President's House alone. This was exceedingly liberal in that "small and feeble" day, when a man with ten thousand dollars was wealthy, and men "worth" a hundred thousand were scarce — much more so than multi-millionaires are to-day.

The Duke of Leinster's Palace

The Architect

A prize of five hundred dollars was offered for the best plans for the building. A young Irish architect named James Hoban, of Charleston, South Carolina, won the prize over all competitors, on a modified building resembling in general outlines the palace of the Duke of Leinster, in Dublin, Ireland. The successful architect also received a salary of one hundred guineas a year as Superintendent of Construction. The Mansion was built of sandstone from Maryland and Virginia quarries, brought in boats to a special landing on the Potomac River nearest the site of the building. It was the drawing of this stone across his farm that David Burns did his best to prevent. If he had only been able, as now-a-days, to get the Court to grant an injunction against this, the White House might still be notorious as an unfinished government "job." But the "snap injunction" is of more recent origin. In 1800, after more than seven years, the Executive Mansion was pronounced completed. Washington saw it when the wood-workers and painters were putting on the finishing touches, not long before his death, December 14, 1799. It is to be said for it that the building was not enlarged during the hundred years. The only modifications have been the addition of porches and conservatories, and the making of so-called "repairs," until 1902, when the Executive Offices were removed to a small annex built for the purpose.

Young Hoban's first plans called for a three-story building, but the people raised such a clamor against such extravagance that two stories and a basement had to suffice. So many of its historic rooms are devoted

Hoban's Drawing of the Northern Elevation, 1792

to public uses that its distinguished occupants have often found their hospitalities limited because of the lack of several sleeping apartments. These, according to the young architect's plans, were to be in the third story.

The First Tenants

The occupants of the White House are "tenants-at-will"—"the will of the people." Its first tenants were John Adams, second President of the United States, and his wife, Abigail, who came to it to spend the last few months of his presidential term in the new national Capital.

Poor Mrs. Adams had already been obliged to settle a house in New York, then move to Philadelphia during Mr. Adams' term in the vice-presidency, when the seat of government was removed to the latter city.

The Mansion and its Surroundings in 1800 (From Two Early Sketches)

She and her household had endured hardships and illnesses in making their official residence in Philadelphia habitable. But she had to move again to the "wilderness city" of Washington, and spend the brief official period remaining to them in the bare attempt to make so large a structure comfortable for its succeeding occupants.

Abigail Adams' Arrival

The second First-Lady-in-the-Land had something to say about the so-called "completeness" of the Executive Mansion when she arrived to take possession. The following is part of her letter to her daughter Abigail (Mrs. Smith) then living in New York:

WASHINGTON, November 21, 1800.

MY DEAR CHILD: — I arrived here on Sunday last, and without meeting with any accident worth noticing, except losing ourselves when we left Baltimore, and going eight or nine miles on the Frederick road. . . . . Woods are all you see from

Baltimore until you reach the city, — which is only so in name. Here and there is a small cot, without a glass window, interspersed among the forests, through which you travel miles without seeing any human being. . . . . .

The house is on a grand and superb scale, requiring about thirty to attend and keep the apartments in proper order, and perform the ordinary business of the house and stables. The lighting the apartments, from the kitchen to parlors and chambers, is a tax indeed; and the fires we are obliged to keep to secure us from daily agues! . . . . To assist us in this great castle, and render less attendance necessary, bells are wholly wanting, — not one single one being hung through the whole house, and promises are all you can obtain. This is so great an inconvenience, that I know not what to do, or how to do. If they will put me up some bells, and let me have wood enough to keep fires, I design to be pleased. I could content myself almost anywhere three months; but surrounded with forests, can you believe that wood is not to be had, because people cannot be found to cut and cart it? . . . . .

You must keep this to yourself, and when asked how I like it, say that I write you the situation is beautiful, which is true. The house is made habitable but there is not a single apartment finished. . . . . We have not the least fence, yard or other convenience, without, and the great unfinished audience room I make a drying-room of, to hang up the clothes in. The principal stairs are not up, and will not be this Winter. . . Up-stairs there is an oval room, which is designed for the drawing-room, and has the crimson furniture in it. It is a very handsome room now, but when completed will be beautiful. It is a beautiful spot, capable of every improvement, and the more I view it the more I am delighted with it. Since I sat down to write, I have been called down to a servant from Mount Vernon . . . with Mrs. Washington's love, inviting me to Mount Vernon, where, health permitting, I will go, before I leave this place. . . .

Mrs. Adams' View of the Potomac.

The vessel which has my clothes and other matter is not arrived. The ladies are impatient for a drawing-room (reception). I have no looking-glasses, but dwarfs, for this house; nor a twentieth part lamps enough to light it. My rooms are very pleasant and warm, whilst the doors of the hall are closed. . . .

Affectionately, Yours Mother A Adams.

The first day of the nineteenth century (January 1, 1801) Mrs. Adams gratified her friends by holding the much-desired "drawing-room."

The "First Families" of Virginia

The leadership of Virginia in the original Union was a prime factor in locating the national Capital in the midst of the woods and swamps of Washington. It was decided that the seat of the national government should not belong to any one State, so a small tract of land was cut off from Virginia and Maryland and called the District of Columbia.

JOHN ADAMS.
2nd President, 1797-1801.
Federalist.
Born, 1735. Died, 1826.
Vice-President, Thos. Jefferson.
War with France.
Death of Washington.
City of Washington made the Capital of the United States.

MOUNT VERNON

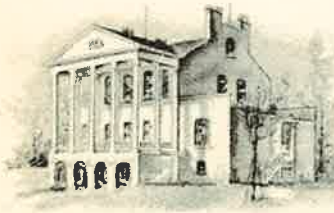
MONTICELLO

Virginia was the "Mother of Presidents." Washington was elected Chief Magistrate as "a Virginia gentleman" as well as because he was Commander - in - Chief. Washington, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe all belonged to the aristocracy of the "First Families of Virginia"—the "F. F. V's." They were descended from English noble families. They had their landed estates, their swarms of slaves, their droves of horses and many equipages. They ordered their furnishings and carriages from abroad, and sent their sons to English schools and universities.

Jefferson, Madison and Monroe lived within a day's drive of each other—in manor houses, on fine estates, known respectively as Monticello, Montpellier and Oak Hill. In that day they were considered neighbors. A true friendship existed among the early Presidents. The great revolutionary struggle through which they had just passed, shoulder to shoulder, had strengthened their regard for one another.

"Old Dominion" and "Old Colony"

MONTPELLIER



OAK HILL

But the Adamses were from Massachusetts. Their circumstances were entirely different. It was only through great sacrifice on the part of his father's family that John Adams was sent to Harvard College. The humble home of the Adamses, at Quincy, Massachusetts, had no high-sounding name. Yet Mrs. Adams belonged no less to the Puritan aristocracy of New England—the aristocracy of "divinity." Her ancestors were ministers. She was a daughter of the Quincys. Abigail's father's family and Church opposed her marriage to young John Adams because he was only a lawyer—a "nobody!" But John Adams and Abigail Smith were married in spite of all opposition. The stern, unyielding minister had the satisfaction of seeing his son-in-law in the front ranks of the cause of freedom, and

Four Virginia Presidents' Homes.

foremost in the founding and government of a Nation, new and great,—the peer of Washington, Franklin, Hancock and Jefferson. Had he lived but a few years longer he could have seen his grandson also Chief Executive of the United States. It is well worthy of note that, of the first six Presidents of the United States, four were from Virginia and two from Massachusetts. The two Yankees were members of one family, the Adamses, father and son.

Birthplaces of John Adams and John Quincy Adams
(John Adams was born in the house at the right)

"Jeffersonian Simplicity"

Thomas Jefferson's beautiful wife had died nineteen years before he came to live in the Executive Mansion. He had two daughters, Martha and Maria, whom he called respectively by the nicknames common at the time, "Patsy" and "Polly." These daughters were both married and engrossed in the cares of their own families, so there was no First-Lady-in-the-Land during Jefferson's eight years of the presidency. Much of the so-called "Jeffersonian simplicity" may have been due to the absence of Jefferson's wife.

And the barren and unfinished interior of the President's House also gave emphasis to this simplicity.

Thomas Moore, the Irish poet, called upon President Jefferson in 1804, and found him in "homely costume, comprising slippers and Connemara stockings." Moore described the President's House as follows:

> A very noble structure, by no means suited to the philosophical humility of its present possessor, who inhabits but a corner of the Mansion himself, and abandons the rest to a state of uncleanly desolation, which those who are not philosophers cannot look at without regret. This grand edifice is encircled with a very wide paling, through which a common rustic stile introduces the visitors to the first man in America.

THOMAS JEFFERSON
3rd President, 1801-1809.
Democratic-Republican.
Born, 1743. Died, 1826.
Vice-President (1st term) Aaron Burr.
Vice-President (2nd term) George Clinton.
War with Tripoli.
The Louisiana Purchase.
The Embargo.
First Steamboat, by Robert Fulton

Jefferson's Devotion to His Daughters

Thomas Jefferson is best known as the author of the Declaration of Independence. Yet the true greatness of the man was also shown in the anxious, tender missives he wrote to his two motherless daughters. With all his cares of state, his letters to them were constant, asking and advising them about their studies, deportment, diet and dress. He tried in every way possible to a man, busy in public life, to fill the great void made in their young lives by the loss of a mother's devotion and care. They were placed in a convent-school in Paris while their father repre-

sented the United States government at the French court. But, in the eight years of Mr. Jefferson's two administrations, his daughters were able to make only two visits to Washington. Maria (Mrs. Eppes) died during Mr. Jefferson's first term of office.

Jefferson is often spoken of as an arch-infidel and skeptic. But his daughter Martha, referring to her father's great sorrow after the death of her sister, writes:

> I found him with the Bible in his hands. He who has been so often and so harshly accused of unbelief, — he, in his hour of intense affliction, sought and found consolation in the sacred volume. The comforter was there for his true heart and devout spirit, even though his faith might not be what the world calls orthodox.

Martha Jefferson Randolph

In order that her father might be less lonely, Martha (Mrs. Randolph) prolonged her visit to Washington through the succeeding Winter, and James Madison Randolph was born there—the first "White House Baby."

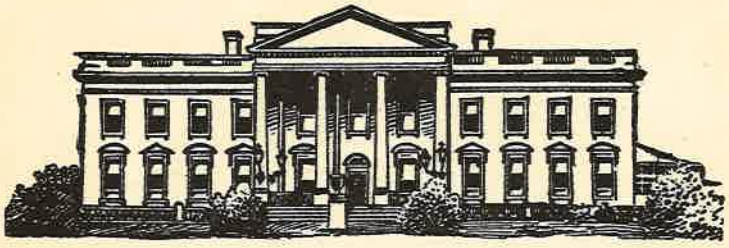
Enter Dolly Madison

James Madison was Secretary of State through both of the administrations of Thomas Jefferson. This made him "heir presumptive" to the highest office in the gift of the people, and gave his beautiful young wife a splendid apprenticeship as First-Lady-in-the-Land.

Dorothy Payne Madison, or "Dolly" Madison, as she was generally called, was perhaps the most popular of the Mistresses of the White House. She was brought up according to the rigid rules of the Society of Friends, and her first husband, John Todd, a rising young lawyer, was also a Quaker. When Madison, then a member of Congress, was introduced to his future wife by Aaron Burr, Dorothy Todd was a young widow with one son, named Payne. The marriage of Mrs. Todd to James Madison took place at "Harewood," Virginia, the home of Mr. Skipworth Washington, George Washington's nephew, who had married Dorothy's younger sister Lucy.

It is thought that Mrs. Madison's being a favorite (as hostess in the President's House during Jefferson's two terms) was a potent factor in the election of Madison, who lacked some elements of popularity. Certain it is that her beauty, loveliness of character, kindness of heart, frankness and tact, made her queen of Washington society and of the United States. She presided in the Executive Mansion for sixteen years, during the double terms of Jefferson and Madison. After this the Madisons removed to Montpellier, Mr. Madison's estate in Virginia, where they lived in retirement until Mr. Madison's death, in 1836. Then Mrs. Madison again took up her abode in Washington, near the White House, and lived there during three more administrations, like a queen-dowager, surround-

JAMES MADISON
4th President, 1809-1817.
Democratic-Republican.
Born, 1751. Died, 1836.
Vice-President (1st term) George Clinton.
Vice-President (2nd term) Elbridge Gerry.
War with Shawnee Indians.
Battle of Tippecanoe.
War of 1812.



"WHITE HOUSE" COFFEE

is a very gem among Coffees—far and away superior to most other brands, and better than the best of them. This above cut—of the White House at Washington—is on the label of every can of "White House" Coffee, and identifies it as a typical, *highest*-grade, and eminently superior quality of that well-known and well-loved berry which has always proved a blessing to mankind—in every country, and in every clime. Ask your grocer to bring you "White House" Coffee. Insist—if necessary.

CAUTION—"White House" Coffee is never sold in bulk, but always in 1 or 2 lb. air-tight tin cans; and may be had either whole or ground.

"White House" Coffee is roasted and packed solely by our house, and may be depended on as being not only the best coffee obtainable, but never varying in quality or flavor.

DWINELL-WRIGHT CO.

PRINCIPAL COFFEE ROASTERS AND TEA IMPORTERS

BOSTON and CHICAGO.

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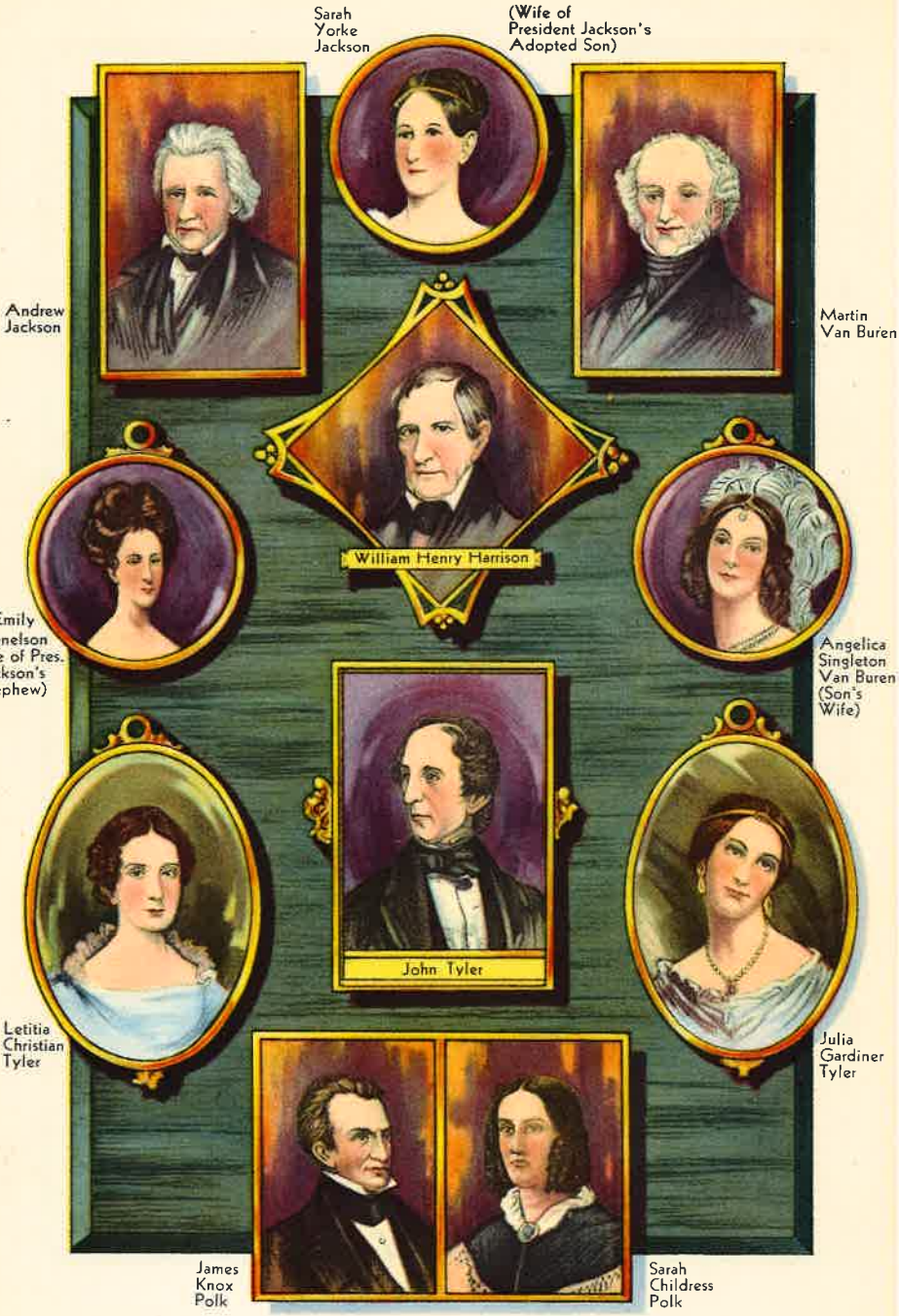

Sarah Yorke Jackson
(Wife of President Jackson's Adopted Son)
Andrew Jackson
Martin Van Buren
William Henry Harrison
Emily Donelson (Wife of Pres. Jackson's Nephew)
Angelica Singleton Van Buren (Son's Wife)
John Tyler
Letitia Christian Tyler
Julia Gardiner Tyler
James Knox Polk
Sarah Childress Polk

ed by her personal "court." Her receptions on New Year's Day and the Fourth of July were as largely attended as the levees in the White House itself. She died in 1849, having enjoyed popular pre-eminence during twelve administrations—nearly half a century.

The Madison House

The Stampede from the Capital

The great event in her husband's presidency was the War of 1812, which ended in the sacking of Washington and the burning of the Capitol and of the Executive Mansion. Mr. Madison's failure to avert this catastrophe, and his flight from the Capital, leaving it to the British, became the subject of the scorn and gibes of the American people. Here are several stanzas, out of sixty-eight, of a crude parody of "John Gilpin's Ride," that was sung in the streets, much to the mortification of the President and his friends:

Quoth Madison unto his spouse,
"Though frightened we have been
These last ten tedious weeks, yet we
No enemy have seen."

"Tomorrow then," quoth she, "we'll fly,
As fast as we can pour,
Northward, unto Montgomery,
All in our coach-and-four."

"My sister Cutts, and Cutts and I,
And Cutts's children three,
Will fill the coach; so you must ride
On horseback after we."

Richard D. Cutts was a Congressman from Maine and the husband of Mrs. Madison's sister Anna. He owned a fine house almost opposite the Executive Mansion, facing what is now Lafayette Square, which also belonged to him. This Square was then an open field or common, and served as a playground for the children of the neighborhood. After the destruction of the Executive Mansion by the British, the Madisons lived in the famous "Octagon House" and in the house belonging to their brother-in-law, which is still known as "the Madison House," because Mrs. Madison occupied it the last fourteen years of her life.

Dolly Madison's Heroism

It is true that the officials in Washington, from the President down, fled in a panic with their families to places of safety, and left Capitol and President's House to be looked after by servants and burned by the British. President Madison acted more like a Quaker than his little wife, who rebelled against the necessity of this disgraceful retreat. She had the great Stuart portrait of Washington taken down from the wall in the

East Room, the frame removed with an axe and the canvas taken to a place of safety. But she did not do this herself with a penknife, as is sometimes stated. That was impossible. She also saved the original document of the Declaration of Independence from the glass case in which it was then preserved. She remained at her post long after her sister and servants besought her to go, crowding "as many cabinet papers into trunks as would fill one carriage." When she did leave at the last moment, she said, with indignant regret, that *she* would have had "a cannon through every window."

North Front, after Burning by the British, in 1814

But the President's House was ransacked by British soldiery and vandals of the city. Then it was set on fire with coals brought from a neighboring saloon. The British admiral, Cockburn, is said to have supped near by, blowing out the candles, that he and his staff might eat by "the light of the burning Yankee palace."

The walls of the Executive Mansion stood for years a gruesome ruin—a blackened monument to disgraceful British vandalism, which, by the way, "met with no approval in London."

Mrs. James Monroe

When Miss Kortright, the belle of New York society, deigned to bestow her little royalist hand and heart upon James Monroe, her friends told her that society had expected her to "make a better match" than that.

Though a pronounced Tory, Mrs. Monroe seems to have been a good, devoted wife to her liberty-loving husband. When Mr. Monroe was sent as United States minister to France, she was in her element. She placed

her daughter Eliza in the famous school of Madame Campan, who was acceptable to Mrs. Monroe because the great French woman had been the associate of kings and queens. To Mrs. Monroe, Mme. Campan was "a grand lady;" to Mr. Monroe she was "a great woman."

So Miss Eliza Monroe was sent to school with queenlets and princesses. She was married to Mr. George Hay, one of her father's secretaries, and she named her little daughter Hortensia, in honor of Napoleon's step-daughter, Hortense, Queen of Holland, and her life-long friend.

While in Paris, Mrs. Monroe visited Madame de Lafayette, the wife of the "friend of America," in prison. It was afterward learned that the Marchioness was to have been guillotined that very day—but the call of the American ambassador's wife brought about the imprisoned lady's release.

Mrs. Monroe in France

James Monroe's Recall and Return

Mr. Monroe was more humane than diplomatic in his recognition of the French republicans, and had to be recalled because of a fervent address he delivered in Paris, which gave offense to the English. This recall was a great disappointment to Mrs. Monroe and Eliza, and extremely embarrassing to Mr. Monroe himself.

But James Monroe was sent to France again, during Madison's administration, as United States Commissioner for the Louisiana Purchase. By this transaction the great Southwest, formerly a French possession, became a part of the United States of America. This transaction had the sanction of the great Napoleon.

Mrs. George Hay
(Eliza Monroe)

After their second return from their beloved France, the Monroes lived on their estate at Oak Hill, Virginia, until Mr. Monroe's election to the presidency.

The Executive Mansion Becomes "The White House"

The Executive Mansion was restored and made "the White House," merely by being *painted white*. There was a change in the etiquette of the White House, from the hospitable, free-and-easy entertainment that characterized the "reign" of Dolly Madison. Mrs. Monroe's early exclusiveness had not been diminished by her association with European royalty. Besides, her delicate health would have prevented her from entertaining in the wholesale manner of the earlier administrations. This also gave her daughter Eliza (Mrs. Hay) more freedom in carrying out that young woman's ideas of what an American "court" should be. Then there were bickering and bitterness over questions of precedence

and etiquette. Mrs. Hay was arbitrary and lacking in tact. Her wilfulness gave her father's Secretary of State, John Quincy Adams, much anxiety. A number of Cabinet meetings were held to settle petty points of etiquette and to devise means of reconciling some offended official or government.

A White House Wedding

Maria Monroe, who was born in France, and was about fifteen years younger than her sister Eliza, was married in the White House—the first wedding of a President's daughter there. (The first marriage in the White House was that of a niece of Mrs. Madison, during the preceding administration.) Here is the brief report of such a great social event as the marriage of the First-Daughter-in-the-Land, in the Washington *National Intelligencer* of Saturday, March 11, 1820:

Mrs. Samuel Laurence Gouverneur (Maria Monroe)

MARRIED. On Thursday evening last in this city, by the Reverend Mr. Hawley, Samuel Laurence Gouverneur, Esq., of New York, to Miss Maria Hester Monroe, youngest daughter of James Monroe, President of the United States.

That was all! Several grand balls were planned, to allow society to celebrate this wedding. But Commodore Decatur was killed in a duel and the "court" went into mourning for this hero of the War with Tripoli. This prevented the public festivities in honor of the daughter of the White House—a disappointment to all and a grievous loss to the bride of seventeen.

Monroe's Greatest Monument

The official dinners became formal occasions while Mrs. Monroe and her daughters were hostesses. The large rooms were warmed and cheered by open fires. The Monroe silver plate and colored waiters were brought from Oak Hill to add distinction to these social events. Mrs. Monroe and her daughters succeeded in establishing the custom of the President's wife not making visits, which was so beneficial as to become permanent. While all these changes were made in the social life within the White House, President Monroe was stating and promulgating the "Monroe Doctrine"—"America for Americans"—the best and most enduring monument to the administration of James Monroe.

JAMES MONROE
5th President, 1817-1825.
Born, 1758. Died, 1831.
Democratic-Republican.
Vice-President (both terms) Daniel D. Tompkins.
Acquisition of Florida.
Missouri Compromise adopted.
Monroe Doctrine stated.
"Era of Good Feeling."

John Quincy Adams and His Family

John Quincy Adams began public life at the age of fourteen. While a very young man he was the associate of diplomats and statesmen, and high value was set on his opinions. In London he married Miss Louisa

Catherine Johnson, born in Maryland, but then living abroad. When John Adams was made President, his son, John Quincy, was transferred to Berlin, and later to St. Petersburg.

Mrs. John Quincy Adams was, perhaps, the most accomplished woman who has ever graced the White House as its Mistress. Besides her proficiency in the modern languages she was able to read Plato in the original Greek with her sons, and she was a skilful performer upon the harp.

The President himself was one of the most cultivated men of his day, and was "a perfect host," though often accused, because of his natural reserve, of being haughty and unfriendly.

Mr. and Mrs. John Quincy Adams had three sons. The eldest was named George Washington. George lived in Boston, and was associated with Daniel Webster in the practice of law. In 1829 he fell overboard from the steamer, *Benjamin Franklin*, running between New York and Boston, and was drowned, at the age of twenty-eight. Their son, John Adams, was his father's secretary, and Charles Francis Adams, their youngest son, was graduated from Harvard the year his father and mother came to live at the White House.

The Youthful Diplomat
(John Quincy Adams at Sixteen)

A President's Message on a Singular Subject

Young John Adams seems to have entertained a rather lofty opinion of his position as the President's son and secretary. He made a remark, one evening, about an editor named Jarvis, who was attending a White House reception with some ladies, who overheard the comment and repeated it to their escort. Mr. Jarvis, meeting young Adams in the Rotunda of the Capitol shortly after, slapped the young man's face and pulled his nose. The President sent a message to Congress informing that august body of this indignity to his son; but, though a committee was appointed to investigate the matter, no punishment was ever meted out to the irate editor.

Although its receptions and other functions were brilliant and elegant, the White House lights were out by ten o'clock. Early hours were necessary, for the President usually arose at four in Summer and six in Winter. In mild weather he went for an early morning swim in the Potomac, and in the Winter he walked to the Capitol, around it and back, a distance of three miles, as a morning "constitutional." His son John often

The Three Sons

Second Baby born in the White House

accompanied him in his water exercises, and they had several adventures and misadventures, which naturally alarmed the White House family; but the President persisted in his favorite athletics.

Another White House Wedding

Young John Adams was married in the White House to his cousin, Miss Mary Hellen, of Washington. It is told that the "cold and distant" John Quincy Adams relaxed his accustomed dignity, danced the Virginia Reel and capered about, joking and singing snatches of old love-songs, in honor of this nuptial occasion.

The second child born in the White House was little Mary Louisa Adams, daughter of the President's son John. The christening of this "White House Baby" was a formal occasion, the ceremony being attended in the East Room by American and foreign dignitaries, in February, 1829.

John Quincy Adams was a most methodical man. He did everything, as it were, by the clock. He was a student of astronomy, and had a telescope mounted on the roof of the White House. He was fond of botany and arboriculture. He planted oak, walnut and many other trees in the White House grounds. He established a botanic garden, suggested the collection of seeds and their distribution by members of Congress among their rural constituents.

Velocipede of John Quincy Adam's Time

The velocipede, propelled by the rider touching the tips of the toes to the ground, was one of the novel sights in the streets of Washington in 1827.

The chief events in the White House during the younger Adams's term of office were the entertainment of the aged Marquis de Lafayette, revisiting the scenes of the early struggle for liberty in America—and the reception to General Andrew Jackson, "the Hero of New Orleans."

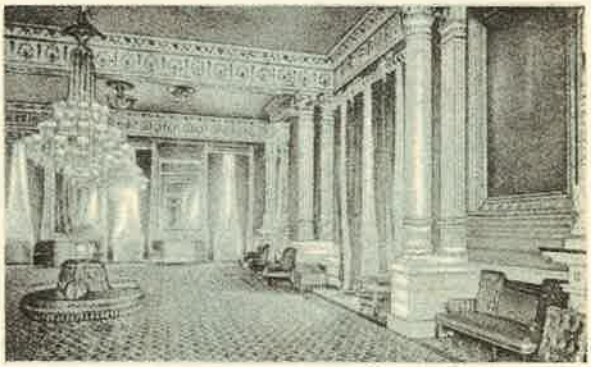
During this administration the White House was refurnished at an expense of $14,000. The East Room, which had now become "the Nation's Parlor," was fitted up in an especially elegant manner under the personal direction of the President and Mrs. Adams.

A Desperate Slander

General Andrew Jackson was elected President in 1828, after a fierce and bitter campaign. His enemies even attacked the fair name of his good wife, with whom he had lived in ideal devotion for nearly forty years. Rachel Donelson, in her youth, had been married to a Captain Robards, who failed to provide for her, treated her badly and finally deserted her altogether. After she had been divorced from

John Quincy Adams
6th President, 1825-1829.
Born, 1767. Died, 1848.
Federal-Republican.
Vice-President, John C. Calhoun.
Cession of Creek lands and removal of Indians to West of the Mississippi.
Passage of the Protective Tariff Bill.

this worthless fellow she was married to General Jackson, whose rare devotion was a constant proof that "the bravest are the tenderest." There seems to have been a flaw in the Robards divorce proceedings, and this was seized on (nearly forty years later!) in a desperate attempt to injure General Jackson's popularity. They stung him to the quick when they lashed him over his wife's shoulders. Mrs. Jackson's friends could see that these slanders were impairing her health, but she did not complain. She was suffering from an affection of the heart when they brought her the news of her husband's election. She said, "Well, for Mr. Jackson's sake I am glad; for my own part, I never wished it."



"The Nation's Parlor"
The East Room from the South end, showing the famous Washington portrait saved by Mrs. Madison

She died while preparing to remove to Washington, and was buried in the white silk gown made to wear at her husband's inauguration.

General Jackson's Popularity

General Jackson was the people's idol. He was very tall and slender, his head covered with a shock of whitening hair. He was brave and generous, loyal to his friends and fierce against his enemies. His distribution of offices among his friends gave rise to the motto: "To the victors belong the spoils." He was a successful man of business, fond of horse-racing, a fighter of duels as well as battles. He was popular even in his vices. He was the first of the Presidents who belonged neither to the Virginia *coterie* nor to the Adams family. He had never been Vice-President, Secretary of State or foreign Ambassador, but he was carried into the presidency on a tidal wave of popularity.

Perhaps no American—not even Washington—ever had so many children named in his honor as Andrew Jackson. Now, nearly ninety years after the Battle of New Orleans, there are many men still bearing the name of its hero.

In Tennessee he gave away scores of Bibles and silver cups to children named for him. On one of his journeys from "the Hermitage," as

The Hermitage, Jackson's Home, twelve miles from Nashville, Tenn.

No portrait
of
Margaret Taylor
or
Betty Taylor Bliss
in
Existence
Jane
Appleton
Pierce
Zachary
Taylor
Franklin
Pierce
Millard
Fillmore
Abigail
Fillmore
Abraham
Lincoln
Mary
Todd
Lincoln
James
Buchanan
Harriet Lane
(President
Buchanan's
Niece)

his home near Nashville was called, to the national Capital he distributed one hundred and fifty bright new silver half-dollars to "Andrew Jackson" babies along his route. No doubt some of these infants bore the magic name for the passing moment only, in order that their parents might secure these valuable silver souvenirs.

Jackson's Friends and Enemies

Andrew Jackson, the President's Adopted Son

But President-elect Jackson went to Washington with fierce resentment in his great heart, vowing vengeance on the vilifiers of his wife. The Capitol had never seen so many people as came from far and near to witness this inauguration. The city never heard, before or since, such a shout as rent the skies the instant President Jackson kissed the Bible in taking the oath of office. Lawless men thronged after him and poured into the White House, with Washington mud on their boots. They ruined the velvet carpets and stood in the satin-covered chairs to catch a glimpse of "Old Hickory," as they called him. They soon drank the barrels of punch in "healths" to their hero. Then they called for more substantial refreshments, breaking china and glassware in the scramble to help themselves. At last they crowded President Jackson himself so that he was in real danger of being crushed.

There was the strongest contrast between the Adamses and the Jacksons. But the Jacksons were "of the people." Dame Grundy stood ready to raise her eyebrows at some things that were done in those days. The wife of General Eaton was the occasion of a social upheaval. The President, remembering the slanders against his own wife, believed all the stories against his "little friend Peg" were calumnies. He attempted to force Mrs. Eaton upon the official society of Washington. Clergymen preached against her. The wives of Jackson's Cabinet members refused to recognize Mrs. Eaton, and sometimes withdrew from a room when she entered it. The Cabinet officers became involved in the social turmoil, and it was said that John C. Calhoun might have attained the presidency but for Mrs. Calhoun's scornful opposition to Mrs. Eaton.

Andrew Jackson Donelson, Mrs. Jackson's Nephew, and Secretary to the President

Two Hostesses in the White House

Emily, wife of Major Donelson, the President's nephew and secretary, was Mistress of the White House through most of Jackson's two terms of office. She managed her affairs with such *finesse* as not to offend her masterful uncle, yet she retained the respect of society. The President had long before adopted another nephew of his wife, naming him Andrew Jackson. His wife was mistress of "the Hermitage," and, on numerous occasions, was hostess at the White House.

The Northern Portico was built in Jackson's day, making the public entrance to the White House of what was originally meant to be its back door.

Four children were born in the White House during Jackson's residence there—to Col. Andrew Jackson Donelson and his wife. The President would often linger near the nursery door until he knew these little ones were being bathed and prepared for bed. Then he would burst in upon them, pretend to slap one with a wash-cloth and sprinkle another with water. They were always ready for the frolic, and often delighted his lonely old heart by splashing him in return. Once, when little Rachel Jackson was restless, the sturdy old President of the United States got up, and, in his night clothes, carried the little girl through the stately parlors until she became quiet and fell asleep. When the family remonstrated with him, he replied, "Rachel likes it, and so do I." Terrible and irascible as he was to others, Andrew Jackson is said never to have spoken an impatient word to his family or household.

Little Rachel Jackson, the President's Granddaughter

"There were giants in those days" in the halls of Congress—Webster, Clay, Calhoun and other great orators and statesmen. Steel pens were introduced from England and began then to be used in place of quills. "Lucifer" matches took the place of flint and tinder. The first railway trains in the United States were run in Jackson's day.

ANDREW JACKSON
7th President, 1829-1837.
Born, 1767. Died, 1845.
Democrat.
Vice-President (1st term) John C. Calhoun.
Vice-President (2nd term) Martin Van Buren.
Revolt of South Carolina because of Protective Tariff.
Wars with the Indians.
Charter of the National Bank revoked.

Mrs. Alexander Hamilton had the pleasure of introducing ice cream to Washington and thus to the American table. President Jackson was so delighted with this frozen delicacy that he declared, "by the Eternal," it should be often served in the White House.

Jackson's Farewell

It was characteristic of "Old Hickory" that, at his farewell reception, he distributed slices of a monster cheese, weighing several tons, sent to the White House by a number of the President's New York admirers.

It was also characteristic of Andrew Jackson that, when he lay on his death-bed, he forgot himself in his concern for the weeping friends around him. He comforted them and begged them all, black and white, to meet him and his beloved Rachel in the Beyond. When the minister asked him if he forgave all his enemies, he said, "*all*—but those who slandered my Rachel and broke her heart!" When his life had gone out, they found, nearest the huge, loyal heart that had just ceased to beat, his Rachel's miniature, as he had worn it for many years.

"Rachel's" Miniature

A Master Magician

Martin Van Buren was a fine-looking, dapper little gentleman of such shrewdness and tact that he was called "the Little Magician." He evidently believed that language is given us to *conceal* our thoughts. This won for him the title of "the American Talleyrand." He was of Dutch descent, born at Kinderhook-on-the-Hudson, New York. His father was a small farmer and tavern-keeper, so Martin deserved great credit for working his way up to the highest office in America. He really intrigued and ingratiated himself into the presidential chair.

Mr. Van Buren had been a widower for nearly twenty years when he came, as master, into the White House. He had served a kind of apprenticeship there during the Jackson *régime*. As Secretary of State and Vice-President he had kept himself at President Jackson's elbow, playing upon the foibles and passions of his chief with consummate skill. About a year after his inauguration, President Van Buren's eldest son (and secretary) married Miss Angelica Singleton, of South Carolina, an accomplished daughter of the old-school southern aristocracy. As the President's daughter-in-law, she presided in the White House with grace and simplicity.

After numerous trials and general ridicule, a Pennsylvanian, named James P. Espy, succeeded in founding the Weather Bureau. "Nullification" was rampant in Washington and the South, and a few northern abolitionists began the agitation against slavery. Though Martin Van Buren was the first President who had not been born a British subject, he was a monarchist at heart. His "royal" receptions in "the Blue Elliptical Saloon," and his elegant dinners were ridiculed in Congress, and contrasted with the rugged simplicity of "Old Tippecanoe," as General William Henry Harrison was called.

Martin Van Buren
8th President, 1837-1841.
Born, 1782. Died, 1862.
Democrat.
Vice-President. Richard M. Johnson.
Establishment of the United States Treasury.
Financial Panic of 1837.
Defeat of Seminole Indians.

General Harrison was the Whig candidate for the presidency. A Democrat had sneered because the General lived in a log cabin; so the log cabin was chosen as the emblem of the campaign and of true American simplicity. The "Log Cabin" campaign was a memorable one. Many campaign songs were composed, celebrating the valor of "Tippecanoe, and Tyler, too." Harrison, or "Old Tip," the hero of the battle of Tippecanoe, was fairly sung into the White House, and the Whigs marched into office. The Democrats were defeated, with their facile leader, Van Buren, who would fain have been "his own successor."

"The President of a Month"

General Harrison was sixty-eight, the oldest President to assume the herculean labors of that high office. The coming of the Whigs into power made his duties most burdensome. It is said that

A Campaign Cabin

it was the horde of hungry office-seekers that killed him. He retired late and rose early. His strength began to fail. He took a cold that settled into pneumonia. In his delirium he seemed still to be struggling with the appointments and disappointments of place-hunters. Once he exclaimed: "These applications—will they never cease?" Again, "My dear Madam, I did not direct that your husband should be turned out . . . I tried to prevent it." His last words were, "I ask nothing more."

The First Funeral

His was the first funeral in the White House. The coffin was placed in the center of the East Room.

It was covered with black velvet, trimmed with gold lace, and over it was thrown a velvet pall with a deep golden fringe. On this lay the Sword of Justice and the Sword of State, surmounted by the scroll of the Constitution, bound together by a funeral wreath formed of the yew and the cypress. Around the coffin stood in a circle the new President, John Tyler, the venerable ex-President John Quincy Adams, Secretary (Daniel) Webster and other members of the Cabinet. The next circle contained the Diplomatic Corps, in their richly decorated court-suits, with a number of both Houses of Congress, and the relatives of the deceased President. Beyond this circle a vast assemblage of ladies and gentlemen filled up the room. Silence, deep and undisturbed, even by a whisper, prevailed. When, at the appointed hour, the officiating clergyman said, "I am the resurrection and the life," the entire audience rose, and joined in the burial service of the Episcopal Church. — (Ben: Perley Poore's *Reminiscences.*)

William Henry Harrison
9th President, March 4th to April 4th, 1841.
Born, 1773. Died, 1841.
Whig.
President one month.
Vice-President, John Tyler.

Mrs. Harrison's health was too precarious to allow her to undertake the journey to Washington at the time of inauguration. In deepest sorrow she waited in the old home at North Bend, Ohio, for the bringing back of her honored husband's body.

A Vice-President Becomes President

When Vice-President Tyler arrived at the Capital, from his home in Virginia, he found that General Harrison's Cabinet had decided that his official title should be "Vice-President of the United States, Acting President"—but he declared himself President by right of the Constitution.

Daniel Webster

President Tyler's administration was a brilliant one. He conferred honors on literary people. Edward Everett he sent as minister to England; Washington Irving to Spain; Caleb Cushing to China; and John Howard Payne, author of "Home, Sweet Home," as Consul to Tunis. Daniel Webster remained Secretary of State until he was "frozen out" of the Cabinet because he had opposed the admission of Texas as a State. Rufus Choate and Robert C. Winthrop were then members of the House of Representatives.

Charles Dickens and Washington Irving were present at a White House reception. Here is a newspaper account of it, dated March 17, 1842:

The Last Levee of the Season

The levee, held by the President on Tuesday evening last, was a brilliant affair, and gave satisfactory evidence of that esteem in which that high functionary is held in social circles.

Among the visitors of peculiar note were the distinguished authors of the "Sketch-Book" and of the "Pickwick Papers," in addition to whom almost all the Ministers of Foreign Powers to our Government were in attendance in full court-dress.

Washington Irving

Two Great Inventions

In one of the committee-rooms of the Capitol the first "likenesses" in the United States were taken—"with the Daguerreotype, or pencil of Nature," as quaintly advertised. Another proposed invention seemed to provoke general mirth. It was classed with Mesmerism and Millerism, then prevalent. (The Millerites expected the world to end in 1844. They even put on "ascension robes" and took positions on hill-tops and roofs for their final flight to "worlds unknown.") The invention that created so much merriment was the electric telegraph, brought to Washington by Samuel F. B. Morse, who, after many rebuffs and defeats, finally obtained, through Congress, an appropriation of $25,000 to enable him to carry on his experiments. No one seemed able to comprehend the greatness or far-reaching benefits of the "magnetic telegraph," as Mr. Morse then called it. The first "news by telegraph" ever sent was the message announcing James K. Polk's nomination as Democratic candidate for the presidency.

Samuel F. B. Morse

A Funeral and a Wedding—then Farewell

Mrs. Letitia Christian Tyler, the President's wife, died in the White House in September, 1842, at the age of fifty-one. As she was an invalid she appeared but once as hostess in the White House—at the wedding reception of her daughter. In 1844, President Tyler, then fifty-five, married Miss Julia Gardiner, in New York City, and brought her, a bride of twenty, to be Mistress of the White House during the remaining eight months of his administration.

Miss Gardiner's father had been killed by the bursting of a gun on the man-of-war, *Princeton*, a short time before this, so the wedding was necessarily quiet. This catastrophe occurred during a presidential excursion down the Potomac. Webster's successor as Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Navy and several other prominent people were killed.

JOHN TYLER
10th President, 1841-1845.
Born, 1790. Died, 1862.
Democrat.
No Vice-President.
Dorr's Rebellion in Rhode Island.
Mormons driven from Illinois.
First Telegraph.

The two Cabinet officers were buried from the White House. It is said that President Tyler was down in the cabin hunting for his hat, which had been playfully hidden by his young *fiancée*, or he would also have been killed.

Mr. Tyler was "the last of the Virginia Presidents." He entertained in true southern style, exhausting his salary in generous hospitality. He gave a party in the White House for the children of Washington. At the "Birthnight Ball" (February 22, 1845) President-elect Polk, Mrs. Dolly Madison and Mrs. Alexander Hamilton were present. A few evenings later, President Tyler gave a ball as a farewell entertainment.

The Tylers Left

How the Tylers Were Left

The Tylers left the White House on the morning of the 4th of March, as Mr. Tyler did not care to take part in the inauguration of his successor. They drove quietly to the wharf of the Potomac River steamer to take passage for Mr. Tyler's Virginia home. But the boat was just leaving. Some one called to the captain: "Hold on there, President Tyler is coming!" But the captain was a staunch Clay Whig, who did not approve of John Tyler. He refused to stop, and shouted back: "*Ex*-President Tyler be hanged! Let him stay." And the boat steamed out, leaving the presidential party on the wharf gazing after it.

Henry Clay

The Polks of Tennessee

Henry Clay was at last nominated for the presidency by the Whigs in 1844. The opposing war-cry was "Polk, Dallas and Texas," and the refrain of the campaign-song,

"O, poor Harry Clay! O, poor Harry Clay!
You cannot be our President, for Polk is in the way,"

turned out to be a true prophecy, for James Knox Polk was elected.

President Tyler's last official act was to sign the joint resolution of Congress approving the annexation of Texas. Thus the Mexican War was bequeathed to the Polk administration.

President Polk was a small man, and so thin that he was accused of wearing his clothes several sizes too large to hide the spareness of his figure.

His wife, Sarah Childress Polk, "was a handsome, intelligent, sensible woman," who dressed in quiet, yet elegant, taste. She was a devout and rather austere member of the Presbyterian Church. She usually received in the East Room or the Blue Room sitting. She was stately and serene in her manner.

JAMES K. POLK
11th President, 1845-1849.
Born, 1795. Died, 1849.
Democrat.
Vice-President, George M. Dallas.
United States gained possession of Oregon.
Mexican War.
Discovery of Gold in California.
Emigration to California.

Save for Mrs. Polk's illness, in 1847, life in the White House passed calmly. A few days before the close of the Polk *régime* they gave a splendid dinner-party in honor of President-elect Taylor, and a grand levee, the same evening, was their farewell reception. President Polk acted as escort to General Taylor at the latter's inauguration.

"Greatness Thrust upon Them"

General Taylor, called "Rough and Ready," the hero of Indian and Mexican Wars, did not want to be President. He felt unfit for that high office. He was sixty-four and had never voted. His wife, Margaret, was a model of devotion to her soldier-husband, sharing the hardships of his Indian campaigns. But the wilderness swamps, infested with hostile savages, were not so terrible to her as the White House with its conspicuous social exactions. But the Taylors had "greatness thrust upon them." With real reluctance they left their quiet little home, near Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and took up their tedious journey toward the national Capital. With them went their daughter Betty (wife of Colonel Bliss, who acted as secretary to his father-in-law) and "Old Whitey," the General's favorite war-horse.

"Old Rough and Ready" on "Old Whitey"

Mrs. Taylor secluded herself in several private rooms in the White House, busy with her knitting and the occasional solace of her pipe—for smoking was not uncommon among the southern ladies of that day. The duties of Mistress of the Mansion devolved on her daughter Betty, Mrs. Bliss, who was described as doing the honors "with the artlessness of a rustic belle and the grace of a duchess." The White House was brightened, during Betty Bliss's brief reign, with new furniture and carpets, and glittering chandeliers, for gas had just been installed there.

Death of Zachary Taylor

On the Fourth of July, 1850, President Taylor sat three hours in the broiling sun, during the patriotic exercises at the recently-begun Washing-

ZACHARY TAYLOR
12th President, 1849-50.
Whig.
Born, 1784. Died, 1850.
Vice-President, Millard Fillmore.
Omnibus Bill Controversy.

ton Monument. On returning to the White House he refreshed himself recklessly with cherries and iced milk. He was seized with *cholera morbus*, and died on the ninth. His was the second President's funeral in the East Room—and within ten years. Millard Fillmore, the second Vice-President to become President, took the oath of office, July 10th, 1850. "Old Whitey" was led behind the hearse containing his master's body in the funeral procession. When the farewell cannon-volley was fired over General Taylor's grave, the old war-charger became suddenly alert, as if scenting a battle, and looked around in vain for the brave comrade who would never again ride him into the thickest of the fray.

The Fillmore Family

Fillmore's administration was eventful. It was the "twilight of the gods" in the Capitol. Webster, Clay and Calhoun reappeared, feeble and broken, and all died within two years. The President's aged father, "'Squire" Fillmore, visited his distinguished son in the White House. When urged to prolong his stay, the old man exclaimed: "No, no! I don't like it here. It isn't a good place for Millard. I wish he was at home in Buffalo!"

MILLARD FILLMORE
13th President, 1850-1853.
Whig.
Born, 1800. Died, 1874.
No Vice-President.
Compromise Measures on Slavery Questions.
Fugitive Slave Law.
"Uncle Tom's Cabin" published.

Mrs. Abigail Fillmore was the daughter of the Rev. Lemuel Powers, a Baptist minister. She had been a school-teacher and was well informed, but stiff and reserved before strangers. She appreciated books and was fond of reading. She fitted up the oval room on the second floor as a Library, selecting many of the books for its shelves. She was an invalid, and was assisted by her young daughter, Mary Abigail, in the arduous social duties of her position. When the time came for the Fillmores to leave the White House, Mrs. Fillmore was too ill to be taken home to Buffalo. She died the same month at Willard's Hotel, Washington.

The Library

"Drawing Rooms" of the Pierces

General Franklin Pierce—or "Frank Purse," as he was called in his native New Hampshire—came, bringing his wife to the White House, in deep sorrow. Their youngest and only remain-

FRANKLIN PIERCE
14th President, 1853-1857.
Born, 1804. Died, 1868.
Democrat.
Vice-President, William R. King.
World's Fair, Crystal Palace, New York City.
Perry's Treaty with Japan.
Kansas-Nebraska Bill (Missouri Compromise repealed).
Struggle between North and South for Control of Kansas.
Forming of Republican Party.

ing child, a bright boy of thirteen, had just been killed in a railroad accident in Massachusetts. Though broken in heart and health, Mrs. Pierce did not excuse herself from the duties and ordeals of her position. Dressed in mourning, she stood by her husband's side on all social occasions. During the sessions of Congress, she gave a state dinner once a week and held weekly morning and evening receptions. These evening functions resembled royal "drawing rooms." Long were the lines of carriages that drew up to the Northern Portico of the Mansion. It is the duty of the Marshal of the District of Columbia to present the guests to the President. The people passed through the Blue, Red and Green Parlors into the great East Room. This national reception room was filled with a brilliant and heterogeneous assemblage—statesmen, military officers in variegated uniforms, office-seekers, diplomats from many climes in rich and strange attire, rustics, Indians, and, best of all, ladies of many lands, moved through this historic apartment, making it a magnificent kaleidoscope, while over all floated strains of rare music by the Marine Band. Refreshments were no longer served at the White House receptions. They had grown too grand and too cosmopolitan for that.

Significant were the forbidden subjects at these levees. The war had "actually begun" in the Halls of Congress. The breach between North and South had widened to a chasm, but that yawning abyss was not to be seen in the East Room. One tall, commanding form was missed from these weekly gatherings—that of Charles Sumner, the man of the North, who had been struck down at his desk in the Senate Chamber. The man of the South was in that variegated throng—Jefferson Davis, general and statesman, brilliant and admired, and a son-in-law of the lamented President Taylor.

Charles Sumner

"The Bachelor President"

John C. Frémont (with "Jessie, too") was the first Republican candidate for the presidency. The Democratic nominees, "Buck and Breck" (Buchanan and Breckenridge) were elected.

James Buchanan, "the bachelor President," was a tall blonde, with blue eyes and an ingratiating manner. He had been United States minister to England and lived much among the British nobility. So he, assisted by his beautiful niece, Miss Harriet Lane, established an American "court" more formal than any since the days of the Monroes.

Japanese Embassy In the East Room

Harriet Lane's beauty was no polite fiction. She was beautiful "in her own right." She was described as

"tall and commanding, with a perfectly molded form, with a faultless head, finely poised and crowned with a mass of golden brown hair, with dark blue eyes, handsome features, the mouth being particularly lovely, and a skin of milk and roses."

During the "reign" of this distinguished uncle and niece, two events of international importance took place, both in 1860. The first was the reception in the East Room to the leaders of the Japanese Embassy, who came to the United States to ratify the first treaty between this country and Japan. The other was the visit to the White House of Queen Victoria's eldest son, who was traveling in America, informally, as Lord Renfrew, with his suite. The Queen's heart was so touched by the friendly reception accorded to Albert Edward, throughout the North, that this fact had great influence in preventing the British government from recognizing the Southern Confederacy, though some of the leading British statesmen favored the South. The sleeping accommodations of the White House were so limited as to make it necessary for the President to give up his own bedroom and sleep in a corridor during the Prince's visit.

JAMES BUCHANAN
15th President, 1857-1861.
Born, 1791. Died, 1868.
Democrat.
Vice-President, John C. Breckenridge.
Dred Scott Decision.
Business Panic of 1857.
Discovery of Silver and Petroleum.
John Brown's Raid, Harper's Ferry.
Secession of seven southern States.
Forming of Confederate States of America.

A Beautiful Hostess

Harriet Lane was the hostess of the Prince of Wales, and a story is told of her beating the English heir-apparent at bowling, but it would have been ungallant for a prince of the blood royal to out-play his hostess—and such a beauty too!

The President and his niece took their royal guest and his suite for a sail down the Potomac to Mount Vernon, where the great-grandson of George the Third laid a wreath upon the tomb of Washington. Albert Edward failed not to remember his charming hostess of forty years before, when issuing invitations for his Coronation as Edward the Seventh, King of Great Britain and Emperor of India.

The President's Bedroom

President Buchanan's last reception was given on the 12th of February, 1861. Miss Lane was gowned in white satin, and received a more brilliant company than usual, and to the rich and elegant toilets of the ladies were added the bright uniforms of the Army and Navy. The President's (the Marine) Band played patriotic airs, but it was said that the "people danced on the edge of a volcano, with the crust heaving under their feet."

No Veneer—but a "Heart of Oak"

Abraham Lincoln, the next President-elect, was obliged to enter Washington "like a thief in the night," and not like "the conquering hero" that he was. He was elected as "Honest Abe, the Rail Splitter" (hence his eldest son, Robert, was facetiously called the "Prince of Rails.") But the real Lincoln was almost unknown. The South thought him an incarnate fiend. Men of his Cabinet patronized or opposed him. Not half of the Republican party, which elected him, approved of his chief measures. Abolitionists thought him too slow. Horace Greeley denounced him in the *Tribune*, and Wendell Phillips sneered at him on the platform. At first the self-styled "society" of Washington ignored the White House receptions. But many came, and saw a tall, lank, uncouth man, with a long pale face, and a kindly smile, making awkward gestures and telling droll stories, pronouncing scared "skeert" and catch "ketch," and so on But he was always modest, courteous and sympathetic, the *soul* of politeness, though lacking some of society's "manners."

Lincoln and "Tad"

Mrs. Lincoln, though realizing her girlish dream, as Mistress of the White House, found the life terribly sad. During their first year there (February, 1862) their little boy sickened and died. The President never ceased to mourn for his "darling Willie." For two years there were no social gayeties in the White House. Mrs. Lincoln would never again enter the room in which Willie died, nor go into the beautiful Blue Room where the boy's funeral was held. Robert, the eldest son, was one of General Grant's *aides*. This left little Thomas, or "Tad," the youngest boy, alone, the pet of the household, and, indeed, of the Nation. Many are the stories of his mischievous pranks and his father's indulgence. This brightness relieved the sombre life of the White House during the long, eventful years of the Civil War.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN
16th President, 1861-1865.
Born, 1809. Died, 1865.
Republican.
Vice-President (1st term) Hannibal Hamlin.
Vice-President (2nd term) Andrew Johnson.
The Civil War.
Emancipation Proclamation.

"Handsome is that Handsome Does"

The White House was a general army headquarters in Abraham Lincoln's time. The President was accessible to all. Many are the stories of frightened children and weeping women who came seeking a special dispensation from the Great Heart of the White House. One poor old woman came down the stairs, after a long interview with the President, clutching to her bosom a pardon which was to grant life and liberty to her only son. She was muttering to herself: "I *knew* it was a lie!" "*What* was a lie?" some one asked her. "Why, they told me President Lincoln was an *ugly-looking* man, but he's the *handsomest man I ever saw!*"

In private life Lincoln illustrated the great motto of his public policy: "With malice toward none; with charity for all." He was never heard to speak harshly of those who bitterly opposed him. He made the same allowance for mental squint and moral obliquity that others make for physical near-sightedness. His writings, like himself, were grandly simple. Who remembers what Edward Everett, the greatest orator of the day, said on the field of Gettysburg on the occasion made historic by Lincoln's brief speech? Yet every schoolboy is familiar with Lincoln's Gettysburg Address.

Lincoln's second term began in triumph, one victory following another, until, on the 3d of April, 1865, President Lincoln, leading little Tad, strode into Richmond. Six days later General Lee surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox. The War was over. Brighter, happier days began in the White House. The President, reckless of all threats of assassination, addressed a crowd of people from the North Portico, on the night of the 13th of April. He read his speech by the light of a candle, handing each leaf to little Tad as he finished it. He was full of joy and hope. The next day he took his wife driving, "like old times," and she afterwards said that she had never seen him so supremely happy as he was that day.

"This Cruel War is Over"

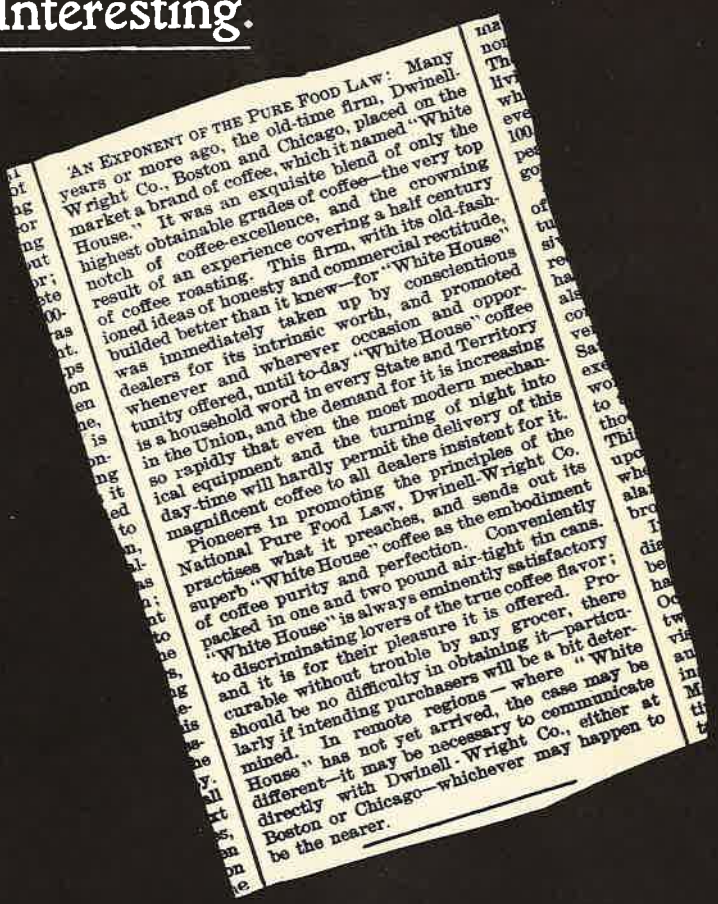
President and Mrs. Lincoln, as had been announced, appeared in a box at Ford's Theatre about nine o'clock that evening. The audience interrupted the play, "Our American Cousin," to give them an ovation.

Martyrdom

Within an hour the assassin had done his dastardly deed. The unconscious, bleeding form of the President was carried into a house across the street, accompanied by the horror-stricken wife. Thomas Pendel, Doorkeeper of the White House for nearly forty years, describes, first the incredulity.

Eliza McCardle Johnson
Martha Johnson Patterson
Andrew Johnson
Julia Dent Grant
Ulysses S. Grant
Rutherford B. Hayes
Lucy Webb Hayes
Lucretia Rudolph Garfield
James Abram Garfield
Chester A. Arthur
Mary Arthur McElroy (President Arthur's Sister)

Press Notices Are Sometimes Interesting.



'AN EXPONENT OF THE PURE FOOD LAW: Many years or more ago, the old-time firm, Dwinell-Wright Co., Boston and Chicago, placed on the market a brand of coffee, which it named "White House." It was an exquisite blend of only the highest obtainable grades of coffee—the very top notch of coffee-excellence, and the crowning result of an experience covering a half century of coffee roasting. This firm, with its old-fashioned ideas of honesty and commercial rectitude, builded better than it knew—for "White House" was immediately taken up by conscientious dealers for its intrinsic worth, and promoted whenever and wherever occasion and opportunity offered, until to-day "White House" coffee is a household word in every State and Territory in the Union, and the demand for it is increasing so rapidly that even the most modern mechanical equipment and the turning of night into day-time will hardly permit the delivery of this magnificent coffee to all dealers insistent for it. Pioneers in promoting the principles of the National Pure Food Law, Dwinell-Wright Co. practises what it preaches, and sends out its superb "White House" coffee as the embodiment of coffee purity and perfection. Conveniently packed in one and two pound air-tight tin cans, "White House" is always eminently satisfactory to discriminating lovers of the true coffee flavor; and it is for their pleasure it is offered. Procurable without trouble by any grocer, there should be no difficulty in obtaining it—particularly if intending purchasers will be a bit determined. In remote regions — where "White House" has not yet arrived, the case may be different—it may be necessary to communicate directly with Dwinell-Wright Co., either at Boston or Chicago—whichever may happen to be the nearer.

From The Boston Transcript.
December 20, 1902.

then the despair, within the White House walls. He tells how poor little Tad came rushing up through the basement, crying: "They have killed my papa dead! They have killed my papa dead!"—how a pallor came over the face of Major John Hay, one of the President's secretaries, and how Hay went to break the news to Captain Robert Lincoln, who had come home that day with General Grant. The Martyr-President died next morning, and his body was brought home and laid on a *catafalque* in the East Room. This was the third President's body to lie in that Hall of Life and Death.

Lincoln's Funeral in the East Room

Mrs. Lincoln's life was broken. She was utterly prostrated for five weeks—too ill to be removed from the White House to give place to President Johnson. The world knows of that last sad pilgrimage to Springfield, Illinois, when the Nation sobbed beside the bier of its best-beloved President. Not long after this, little Tad joined his fond-hearted father. The lonely wife and mother died at Springfield, Illinois, July 16, 1882, at the age of sixty-one.

The life of Abraham Lincoln has been written by his two secretaries, Hay and Nicolay, and by Miss Tarbell, whose story has been numbered by critics among the ten great books of the world. Lincoln was the greatest President that ever lived in the White House. His story is told by the fireside along with the stories of Joseph and Moses.

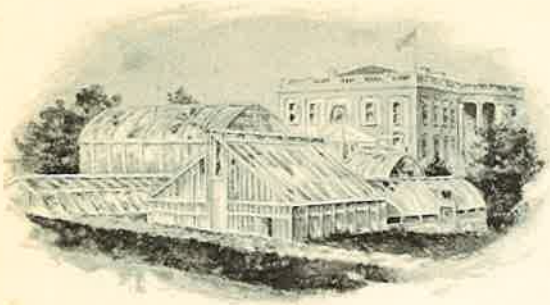
Andrew Johnson's Family

ANDREW JOHNSON
17th President, 1865-1869.
Born, 1808. Died, 1875.
Republican.
No Vice-President.
The Grand Review.
Amendment to Constitution abolishing Slavery.
Impeachment of Andrew Johnson.
Atlantic Cable laid.
Alaska purchased.

Andrew Johnson brought a large family into the White House. His wife was an invalid. She appeared there in public only once, and that was at a children's party given by the President for their grandchildren. Yet she was the true Mistress of the White House, because she had done so much to help her husband gain that lofty position. It is not quite true, as is often told, that when she married Andrew Johnson, a village tailor, she taught him his letters.

Her daughter Martha, wife of Senator Patterson of Tennessee, had attended the famous "finishing school" in Georgetown, and had been a frequent visitor in the White House during Polk's administration. Mrs. Patterson was an admirable hostess. She had two children, and her sister, Mrs.

The Kitchen



The Conservatories

Stover, three. These, with two sons of the President, made a lively "house party." Mrs. Patterson was the last of the ladies of the White House who went into the kitchen and, "with her own fair hands," skimmed the milk of cows pastured on the slope between the Mansion and the river.

The cares of the office in such a trying time left heavy traces upon President Johnson, and the great Impeachment Trial of the husband and father added to the sorrows and burdens of the noble women of his family.

Thirty thousand dollars was voted by Congress for refurnishing the White House, but the Grants had the pleasure of expending it. The Conservatories were burned during Johnson's time. The greatest "crush" ever seen at a White House levee, according to Doorkeeper Pendel, occurred at Johnson's farewell reception.

ULYSSES S. GRANT
18th President, 1869-1877.
Born, 1822. Died, 1885.
Republican.
Vice-President (1st term)
Schuyler Colfax.
Vice-President (2nd term)
Henry A. Wilson.
Completion of Railroad across the Continent.
Adoption of the Fifteenth Amendment.
Great Chicago and Boston Fires.
Financial Panic of 1873.
Centennial Exhibition.
First Electric Light and Telephone.
The Custer Massacre.

During the Grant Régime

General Grant was the youngest man ever elected to the presidency of the United States. His story is a familiar one. The life of the Grants in the White House was quiet and simple. The family consisted of the President, his wife, three sons—Fred, Ulysses and Jesse—and one daughter, Nellie, who was the pet of her father and of the Nation.

Judge Dent, Mrs. Grant's father, also a member of the household, was an out-and-out Democrat all his life. He died in a room overlooking the North Portico, and his funeral was held in the Blue Room.

It was on the 21st day of May, 1874, during her father's second term, that Nellie Grant, the "daughter of the Republic," was married, in the East Room, to Algernon Sartoris, a young Englishman. There were eight bridesmaids, and Col. Fred Grant was the groom's "best man." They had the wedding feast in the State Dining Room, and the bride's cake was the centerpiece of the beautifully decorated table.

Nellie Grant as a Bride

Col. Fred Grant married Miss Honoré, a sister of Mrs. Potter Palmer, of Chicago, and their first child, a daughter, was born in the White House. She is now the Princess Cantacuzene of Russia. Mrs. Nellie Grant Sartoris's two daughters are great favorites in English and American society.

The Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia, in 1876, and the entertainment, at the Capital, of foreign officials and potentates, among whom were the Emperor and Empress of Brazil, made a fitting close to the brilliant administrations of General Grant.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES
19th President, 1877-1881.
Born, 1822. Died, 1893.
Republican.
Vice-President, William A. Wheeler.
Withdrawal of United States Troops from the South.
Great Railroad Strikes.
Resumption of Specie Payments.
Treaty with China.

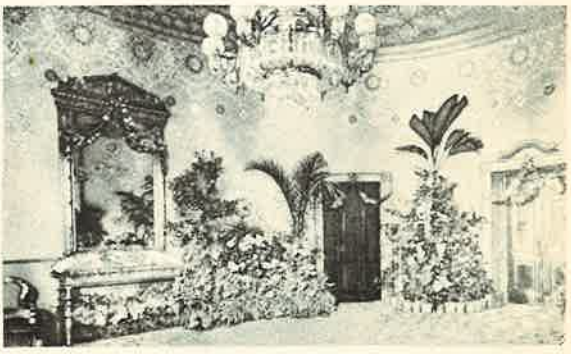
The Hayes Administration

On account of the uncertainty attending the election of Rutherford B. Hayes, he took the oath of office as President, privately, in the Red Room, just before a dinner given in his honor by President Grant the Saturday evening previous to his inauguration on Monday, March 5, 1877. There were four sons and a daughter. The eldest son, Webb Hayes, was his father's secretary, and the youngest, Scott, was a boy running about playing with his little sister Fanny.

Mrs. Hayes's personal *régime* in the White House was perhaps the most influential of all the noble line of Mistresses of the Mansion. She did not allow wines to be served in the White House (when her guests were Americans) and took a firmer stand on the temperance question than any of her predecessors. She entertained liberally and elegantly, dressed richly, and in the best of taste. Even when she received in an ordinary black silk gown, it was said of Lucy Webb Hayes, that "Mrs. Madison, in her time, in her pink satin and feathers, commanded hardly more admiration."

The Hayes silver wedding was the only one ever celebrated in the White House. The Mansion, especially the East Room, was elaborately decorated with flowers and exotics from the Conservatories, and the Marine Band furnished the music. There were only one hundred guests. Among these were several who had participated in the original marriage ceremonies.

Though the Hayeses entertained so hospitably, Mrs. Hayes administered the appropriations so carefully that they were able to devote twenty-five thou-



The Blue Room, decorated

Eliza Ballou Garfield
("Grandma" Garfield)

sand dollars to the purchase of the famous White House china dinner service of nearly one thousand pieces, each of which was ordered decorated with an original design illustrating a type of plant or animal life in the United States.

Garfield's Short, Sad Term

General Garfield's aged mother was the first mother of a President to hear her son's Inaugural Address. She received his first kiss after his lips had pressed the sacred page in taking the oath of the presidential office. "Grandma" Garfield, as she was popularly called, was a member of the White House family. There were two sons, James and Henry, and a daughter, Mollie, who was afterward married to Stanley Brown, her father's secretary. The world knows the story of Eliza Ballou Garfield's widowed poverty and the early struggles of her son James. Mrs. Lucretia Rudolph Garfield, proved herself a noble and devoted wife during the eleven terrible weeks between July 2, when President Garfield was shot by the half-insane Guiteau, and September 19, when he died at Elberon, New Jersey. Another Martyr-President's obsequies were held in the East Room, and another Vice-President, Chester Alan Arthur, became President.

JAMES ABRAM GARFIELD AND CHESTER ALAN ARTHUR
20th and 21st Presidents, 1881-1885.
Garfield, Born, 1831. Died, 1881.
Arthur, Vice-President. Born, 1830. Died, 1886.
Overflow of Mississippi River.
East River or "Brooklyn" Bridge, New York City, completed.
Reduction in rate of Letter Postage.
Civil Service Bill passed.

President Arthur was a handsome man, known as "the Gentleman President." His entertainments were elegant and his dinners were epicurean. He was a man of taste, tact and a high sense of honor. His wife having died, his sister, Mrs. McElroy, of New York, was Mistress of the White House during his administration. The President's son, Alan, acted as his secretary.

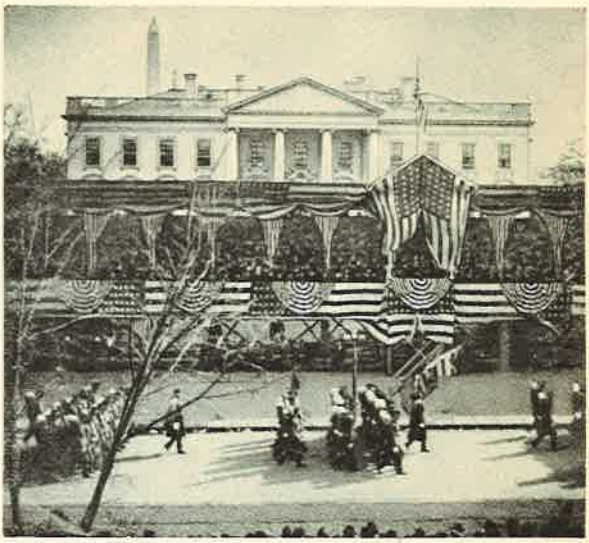
The Clevelands Twice

The Green Room

There is hardly a man or woman born in this country who does not remember the Clevelands. Miss Rose E. Cleveland the President's sister, was a talented authoress when she became Mistress of the White House. Mr. Pendel, the Doorkeeper, writes of Frances Folsom's first appearance

there—on her wedding day—and this briefly describes the wedding of the first President ever married in the White House:

I received a very pleasant smile and a bow from the intended bride as I opened the door. . . . . They were married in the Blue Parlor, right in front of the divan facing North. The Rev. Dr. Sunderland performed the ceremony. They then went upstairs, donned their traveling suits, passed down the great stairway and out of the Blue Parlor door into the South Portico. As they passed out, rice and slippers were thrown after them.



Cleveland's Inauguration Procession passing the White House. Top of Washington Monument (half a mile away) seen above the East End of the Mansion.

Mrs. Cleveland was the most popular woman in America. Besides the regular receptions and dinners, she gave *musicales* in the Blue Room and teas in the Green Room. Doorkeeper Pendel writes of her:

She made everybody who came there go away happy. She had a kindly way of making people feel at home. . . . . She was a very charming lady, and did the duties of the White House admirably.

Grover Cleveland was next to the youngest President ever elected to the office. The old Doorkeeper, who came there while Lincoln was President, says Cleveland was "the hardest working President" he ever saw. In September, 1893, little Esther came—the first child of a President born in the White House. She and her older sister, popularly known as "Baby Ruth," were carefully guarded against the "camera fiends."

GROVER CLEVELAND
22nd and 24th President, 1885-1889 and 1893-1897.
Born, 1837.
Democrat.
Vice-President (1st term) Thomas A. Hendricks.
Vice-President (2nd term) Adlai E. Stevenson.
Organization and Passage of Civil Service Commission and Inter-State Commerce Bills.
Hawaiian Trouble.
Financial Panic of 1893.
Venezuelan Difficulty.

A Term of Bereavements

Benjamin Harrison, grandson to William Henry Harrison, came in between the two terms of President Cleveland.

The Harrisons' daughter, Mrs. McKee, with her children ("Baby McKee" and his younger sister) lived in the Executive Mansion much of the time.

BENJAMIN HARRISON
23rd President, 1889-1893.
Born, 1833. Died, 1901.
Republican.
Vice-President, Levi P. Morton.
Passage of McKinley Bill and Silver Purchase Bill.

Four Generations
Rev. Dr. Scott, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. McKee, "Baby" McKee and little Mary McKee. From a photograph taken in the Red Room by Charles Parker, Washington.

Mrs. McKee gave a grand ball—the second in the history of the White House.

Mrs. Harrison, though a grandmother, took lessons in painting and learned to do exquisite work on china, painting from nature in the White House Conservatories. During the Harrisons' term there were three funerals in the Executive Mansion. Secretary Tracy's wife and daughter, whose shocking deaths occurred in the burning of their home, were buried from the White House. Mrs. Harrison's father, the Rev. Dr. Scott, died there at the age of ninety-two. His funeral was held in the Blue Room. Last of all, Mrs. Harrison died in "the Garfield Room," and the obsequies took place in the East Room. A full-length portrait of Mrs. Harrison has a place of honor in the Red Room.

The Third Martyr-President

Following the Clevelands' second term were William McKinley and his sweet-faced invalid wife. Every one knows how devotedly President McKinley shielded her on all occasions, and how earnestly she tried not to be a burden to him. The faithful Doorkeeper, in his interesting book, tells of her knitting in the evening while the President read to her. It required great heroism on her part to undertake the long journey to the Golden Gate. Her return to the White House alive seemed almost a miracle to those who knew her. After her coming from the gates of death, they planned to spend a quiet Summer together at their old home in Canton, Ohio. The shattering of their plans and lives by the assassin's bullet is too recent and painful to be described here. A third Martyr-President's form was placed under the center

Red Room, showing Mrs. Harrison's Portrait

Grover Cleveland
Rose Elizabeth Cleveland (President Cleveland's Sister)
Frances Folsom Cleveland
Benjamin Harrison
Caroline Scott Harrison
William McKinley
Theodore Roosevelt
Ida Saxton McKinley
Edith Carow Roosevelt
William Howard Taft
Helen Herron Taft

WILLIAM MCKINLEY.
24th President, 1897-1901.
Born, 1844. Died, 1901.
Republican.
Vice-President (1st term) Garrett A. Hobart.
Vice-President (2nd term) Theodore Roosevelt.
Blowing up of Battleship Maine and the Hundred Days' War with Spain.
Annexation of Hawaiian Islands, Porto Rico and Philippine Islands.
Centennial Celebration of occupation of Washington as National Capital and of the White House.

chandelier in the East Room. Beside that bier wept the world again, and America stilled her aching heart while she joined with broken voice in the hymn McKinley loved:

"Nearer, my God, to Thee."

This marks the end of the original manuscript by Mr. Whipple. From this point on the story is told by Alice Roosevelt Longworth who went to live in the White House at the age of seventeen, in 1901, as the oldest child of President Theodore Roosevelt.

The Youngest President

Theodore Roosevelt succeeded to the Presidency on September 14th, 1901. He was in the Adirondacks when the telegram reached him telling him that President McKinley was dying. A week before while visiting the Pan American Exposition in Buffalo, McKinley had been shot twice by the anarchist Leon Czolgosz. The Vice President left immediately. First a breakneck drive down the mountain in the night to reach the railroad, then by special train to Buffalo. But the President had died before he got there. That evening, Mr. Roosevelt was sworn in as President of the United States. A few weeks later the new President and his family moved to the White House.

Changes in Architecture and Furnishings

The exterior of the White House looked then as it does now, except for the western terrace which was added the following year to balance the eastern terrace that leads to the offices. Indoors it was totally different. At this point I am going to quote what I wrote about it a few years ago in my book "Crowded Hours."

Wilcox Residence, Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, New York, where President Roosevelt took the Oath of Office after McKinley's death in 1901

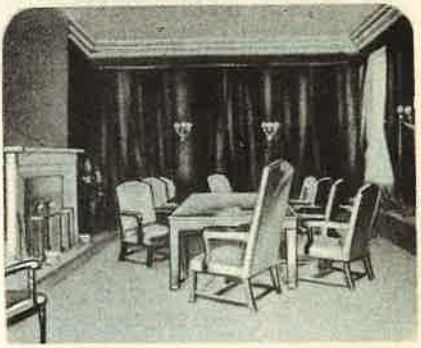
"The interior of the White House at that time was both ugly and inconvenient. It was not done over and arranged as it now is until the following year. The President's offices were on the same floor as the private rooms, above the east room and the green room. They were cut off from

the rest of the house by a glass and wood partition at the end of the upstairs hall, and though reached by a separate stairway, all the callers had to go in through the front door of the White House. The furniture and the decorations in the house proper were all that we mean when we say 'late General Grant and early Pullman.' There was much plush and gilt and heavy upholstery, and the ceilings were frescoed with acres of oil-cloth patterns. The length of the east room was punctuated by three upholstered circular seats, each with an elevation in the centre, out of which sprouted a potted palm. When the palms were removed, a not-too-large-child could crouch in the vacant space and pop out at passers-by.

The New "Executive Offices"

A Paradise for Children

The staircase that led to the private rooms was at the west end of the hall in a line with the east room door. It occupied the space that is now part of the enlarged state dining-room. The younger children, and I too, used to filch from the pantry the largest tin trays we could find and slide down those stairs on them. It was a marvellous house for children to play in. I don't think that before and certainly not since has there been such a big, young family to enjoy it. Father was barely forty-three when he became President, and the children ranged from Quentin, aged 4, Archie going on eight, Ethel ten, Kermit twelve, Ted fourteen, to me just under eighteen. There were few if any limitations put on where and what they might play. They were, of course, not allowed to be seen in the downstairs rooms during the times they were open to sightseers, nor must they disturb the family and their guests, nor be destructive. Stilts and bicycles were permitted in the long upstairs hall, and hide-and-go-seek on that floor and the floor above. A door under the main staircase opened into a conservatory that occupied the floor space of the terrace that leads from the house to the offices which were built when the White House was done over."



New Cabinet Room

Gay Parties — Warm Friends

When I was a girl in Washington I was so busy going to parties

The Roosevelt Children

and seeing young people of my own age that I had very few quiet moments at home with the family. After I was married I lived in a house five or six streets away and hardly a day passed that I did not go in to see them. To continue quoting: "We all used to congregate in Mother's bedroom, the big southeast room that looks out over the trees and lawns of the White House garden and the ellipse, to the shaft of the Washington Monument and a far-off glimpse of the river. The two elder boys were there during the holidays only, but the three younger children were always in and out; Mother nominally resting, on the sofa near the fire. Father would come in from the office, or from a ride or walk, and join us. He would talk about the people he had been seeing during the day, the public questions that were up, or we would discuss family matters; the latest news of the boys from school, the things that the younger children were doing, my activities in the world of 'society,' people and things generally. I would stay until the last possible moment before going home to dress for dinner. There were very few afternoons when my electric runabout was not parked in front of the north portico. I had friends from out of town stopping with me nearly every week and there were always lunches, dinners, and receptions at the White House as part of the entertainment provided for them."

The pleasantest part of a reception was the supper afterwards. After the last guest had passed through the line, the President, the Cabinet, their wives, people who were stopping in the house, other out of town guests and a few Washington friends, repaired to the upstairs hall where eighty or ninety people were seated at eight or ten tables. There for an hour or so, everyone relaxed and had a pleasant and informal time.

White House South Front

These supper parties were discontinued by the Tafts, as they thought it seemed like discrimination against the big majority, who could not be invited to them owing to lack of space. They provided instead a buffet supper in the state dining room to which anyone was welcome who could make a passage through the crowd that soon jammed around the table.

The White House is a becoming

background for any sort of party, but my sister Ethel's coming out dance was one of the prettiest I have ever seen there. She and mother greeted the guests in the Blue Room. Behind them were great screens arranged to hold the quantities of flowers that had been sent to her.

Washington Memorial

The rooms on the second floor of the White House have frequently been redecorated by the families who have occupied them since we lived there. Downstairs however, the renovations of 1902 have hardly been touched. The state dining room, the small dining room, and the blue room are exactly the same. Succeeding administrations have tried to ease the stiff formality of the green room and the red room with varying degrees of success. Portraits of the Presidents and their wives have been shifted about a little and some comparatively comfortable chairs and sofas have supplemented the backless benches in the East Room. But it is not possible, or really desirable, to make such official apartments like the rooms in a private house.

Probably very few people recollect a change inaugurated by my father. The house was called officially the Executive Mansion until he legalized the popular name of White House.

The Rough Rider Keeps Fit

No matter how busy he was my father always found time for exercise. A tennis court installed near the new office building was in constant use during good weather. The close friends and advisers who played there became, in fact, known as the "tennis cabinet." There were long, fast, hard walks through Rock Creek Park or in the swampland along the river that is now Potomac

Capitol in Day Time

Capitol at Night

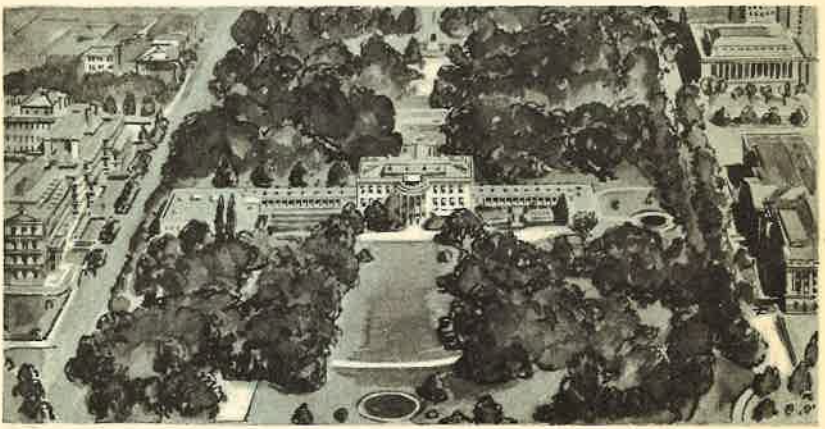
Park. And of course everyone rode—father, mother, children of assorted ages and sizes, and many friends. There was much indoor exercise, too, jiujitsu, single stick, and if I remember correctly, some boxing and wrestling.

The attic was a great place for pillow fights. It has since been entirely remade, the floor strengthened and the waste space cut up into a number of bedrooms greatly increasing the White House guest capacity. My young brothers and sister had many pets. One was a particularly attractive little calico Shetland pony on which Archie and later Quentin used to ride to school when they were very small boys. There was an assortment of dogs, a coon cat from Maine, a parrot, a macaw, and of course guinea pigs and rabbits, though I think most of these were left at home at Sagamore Hill.

*"We spent our last Christmas at the White House, all the family together, and had our photographs taken on the south portico. If we had any charm at all, that photograph certainly does not convey it!"

The Golfing President Moves In

Ten weeks later the President and Mrs. Taft arrived to spend the night, before they moved in after his inauguration the following day. It began to snow after dinner and kept on until late the next morning,



White House Gardens

* From Crowded Hours.

when the sun came out in time to turn the streets into a morass of slush. The weather was so bad that Mr. Taft had to make his inaugural address in the Senate chamber.

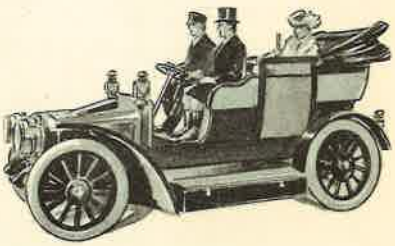
A Marine Band

**"The Tafts were most hospitable and loved entertaining. Mrs. Taft gave many garden parties and started the custom of driving around by the Potomac in the afternoon to listen to the band play. For a while everyone flocked there. But motors were coming in and they did not lend themselves to driving slowly around in one's best clothes, with large hats, gloves, and parasols; we should have had to return to victorias and landaus for that. So those somewhat ritual afternoons did not continue for very long."

The Japanese Cherry Trees are Planted

It was Mrs. Taft who planted the cherry trees that were a gift from the Japanese government around the Tidal Basin. Each year when they are in bloom Washington is invaded by thousands who come to enjoy the beauty for which she was largely responsible. She also originated the custom of the first lady driving back with the president after the inaugural ceremony, which has continued ever since.

Automobiles first came to the White House with the Tafts. Up to that time the government provided sedate long tailed horses, a landau and perhaps one or two other carriages for the use of the President and his family. Very different from the battalions of official cars that in recent years have been at the disposal of White House occupants.



An Automobile of Early Vintage

As a matter of fact, an open landau drawn by four horses was still used to carry the President to and from the Capitol at Mr. Taft's inauguration and at both of Mr. Wilson's. It was not until Harding's inauguration that motors replaced horses.

President Taft weighed too much to indulge in the vigorous activity of his predecessor. His only form of exercise was golf. He was, I believe, the first President to play that ancient and honorable game.

There were three Taft children, Helen, who had her coming out party at the White House, Robert, and Charlie. They and their friends

** From Crowded Hours.

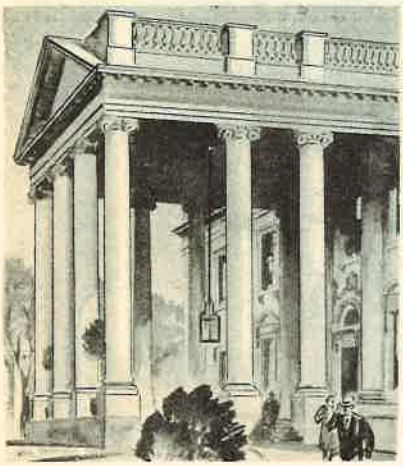
Japanese Cherry Trees
in Potomac Park

and other members of the family kept up the tradition of pleasant White House existence.

The War President

During the eight years that Woodrow Wilson was President, I was in the White House only twice. Miss Belle Hagner who had been my mother's private secretary, had gone to Mrs. Wilson in the same capacity. She asked me to a tea at her apartment to meet the Wilson girls, so a few days later I left cards on Mrs. Wilson and her daughters and was invited to tea with them. It was a perfunctory and formal occasion, but I recollect Mrs. Wilson's quiet friendly charm of manner to me, the daughter of her husband's opponent at the preceding election. My husband had been defeated for Congress and I left Washington that spring and did not have a house of my own there until the autumn of 1915. In the winter of 1914, however, I made occasional visits to the capital, and on one of them went to a musicale at the White House.

Looking it over from my seat in the back of the East Room it might have been a party during the two preceding administrations or at any of those that came after. For there is a great sameness about all such official occasions. There are the Marine Band, uniformed aides, thousands of guests passing the receiving line, diners filling the state dining room to capacity, after which entertainments in the East Room of varying degrees of excellence.



White House Portico

Wilson Weddings

There were three weddings in the White House family during the Wilson regime. Miss Jessie Wilson married Mr. Francis B. Sayre in 1913, Miss Eleanor Wilson married Mr. William Gibbs McAdoo, the Secretary of the Treasury,

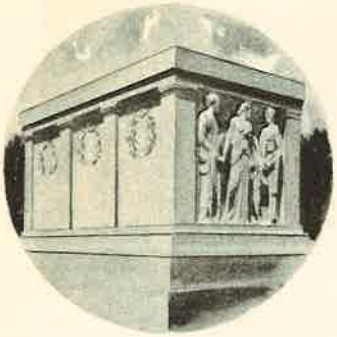
Ellen Louise Axson Wilson
Edith Bolling Galt Wilson
Thomas Woodrow Wilson
Warren G. Harding
Florence Kling Harding
Calvin Coolidge
Herbert Clark Hoover
Grace Goodhue Coolidge
Lou Henry Hoover
Franklin Delano Roosevelt
Anna Eleanor Roosevelt

"The Manse," Staunton, Virginia,
Birthplace of Woodrow Wilson

in the spring of 1914 and the third wedding was that of the President himself. The first Mrs. Wilson died in the summer of 1914. In the autumn of 1915 President Wilson was married to Mrs. Edith Bolling Galt. After we entered the war in 1917 there were practically no entertainments at the White House. In 1918 soon after the Armistice the President and Mrs. Wilson left for Europe. They returned to Washington for ten days in February and March, not getting back from the second European trip until July, and in September he suffered the breakdown from which he never recovered.

Peace and Prosperity

With the inauguration of Harding the White House doors were again open and the usual series of state receptions, dinners, teas, and garden parties were resumed. Mrs. Harding enjoyed the pomp and circumstance that is such a large part of the White House routine. President Harding had a sociable, easy disposition, was devoted to old friends and cronies and never so happy as when surrounded by them. He gave many small intimate parties usually with bridge and poker after dinner. Mr. Harding was another presidential golf addict, and was often seen on the courses around Washington. He made frequent use of the Presidential yacht Mayflower for week-end trips down the Potomac, always accompanied by his card-playing friends. The Mayflower, one of the most attractive perquisites of the Presidency, was put out of commission by President Hoover and later burnt to the water's edge while in dock. Mr. Harding's tenure of office was ended by his sudden death in San Francisco on August 2nd, 1923.



Tomb of the Unknown Soldier,
Arlington, Virginia

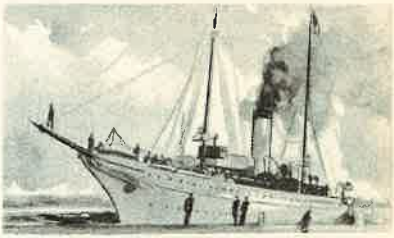
New England's Reticent Coolidge

Calvin Coolidge was sworn into the Presidency by his father, Colonel John Coolidge, early in the morning of August 3rd in the family homestead at Plymouth Notch, Vermont. He brought his New England training to the White House and believed in spending the people's money as frugally as he spent his own.

President Coolidge had a dry salty wit and could be most amusing — when he wished to be, but he was more often glum, especially at a dinner party. He would sit through the entire meal, his mouth a thin, stubborn line while his neighbor exerted every effort to extract so much as a reluctant monosyllable.

Arlington Amphitheatre

The rare occasions when he did talk were regarded as an event. One day while he was Vice President he was dining at a country club near Washington that is renowned for its Southern cooking. On his right was the wife of the Belgian Ambassador and to the amazement of everyone they were soon chattering animatedly. Mr. Mellon was on the lady's other side, and then came a well known Washington hostess who had experienced Mr. Coolidge's taciturnity. She became consumed with curiosity to find out what had loosened the springs of his conversation and asked Mr. Mellon to listen in. He did so and reported that the topic was corn bread. Possibly the Vice President was comparing it to the johnny cake of his homeland. At all events he gave every appearance of enjoying himself.



Presidential Yacht "Mayflower"

Some anonymous individual once said that Mr. Coolidge looked as if he had been weaned on a pickle. The story was attributed to me, and I wish that I had said it, because it exactly described him when his mind was made up to be unresponsive.

Mr. Coolidge did not do very much in the way of exercise. He was sparely built and probably could not have put on fat if he had wanted to. He took up riding but only briefly for he was one of those unfortunate individuals who get a sort of asthma if they go anywhere near a horse. Eventually, as some exercise was considered desirable, he got himself an electric horse, which gave journalists and cartoonists material for many jokes. There were also White House pets in the Coolidge administration. President Harding had an Airedale called "Laddie Boy" about whom the general public was kept well informed, and the Coolidges had several dogs, among them a chow and some very handsome white collies. One of them is included in the White House portrait of Mrs. Coolidge. Also a coon

Memorial to Warren Gamaliel Harding, Marion, Ohio, erected 1926-1927

Coolidge Home, "Beeches," Northampton, Massachusetts

called "Rebecca," whose antics often got into the newspapers.

Gracious Grace Coolidge

Mrs. Coolidge more than compensated for her husband's lack of small talk. Her simplicity, amiability and charm saved many moments which would otherwise have passed in austere silence on the part of the President and his baffled guests.

Yet no one could be more friendly than President Coolidge. When my daughter was a baby a few months old I took her to the White House in the market basket in which she was carried in the motor, to show her to Mrs. Coolidge. Four years later she went there with me again to say goodbye to them, the day before they left the Presidency to return to private life. That time the President was there too. With the nicest sort of expression in his eyes he talked directly to the four year old child, saying that he was glad to meet her at last and regretted not having seen her the time she came in the market basket.

Work Room of President Coolidge

The Coolidges had two sons, John and Calvin, Jr. The death of Calvin, Jr. was a tragedy that his parents bore with a fortitude that won the respect as well as the sympathy of the entire nation.

At Home with the Hoovers

President and Mrs. Hoover made the family apartments on the second floor of the White House more attractive and homelike than I had ever before seen them. They brought many of their own pictures and ornaments and I recollect in the state dining room a painting of some western scene that transported the sunshine of California into the dark paneled room. The oval sitting room above the Blue Room they made really charming, with huge comfortable sofas and chairs and other personal belongings; the curtains always kept pushed back from the windows to give an uninterrupted view of the Washington Monument with the park and river beyond.

Mr. Hoover is a noted fisherman and soon after he became President he bought land in the foothills of the Blue Ridge a few hours drive from

the Capital. There he built a camp on the Rapidan where he could indulge in his favorite sport without being too remote from the call of official duties. His only form of violent exercise was medicine ball, which he used to play early in the morning before breakfast. Those who shared this diversion with him were soon known as the "Medicine Ball Cabinet."

Birthplace of Calvin Coolidge, Plymouth, Vt.

Children's Laughter Resounds Again

For the first time since my father's administration there were young children running in and out of the White House; the small girl and boy of the eldest son, Herbert Hoover, Jr. The second son, Allen, was unmarried, and neither he nor his elder brother were much in Washington. The Hoover grandchildren were kept very much in the background, as their parents and grand-parents sincerely disliked the publicity that White House occupants inevitably attract. Peggy Ann was a particularly engaging little girl who looked absurdly like her grandfather, in a miniature feminine edition.

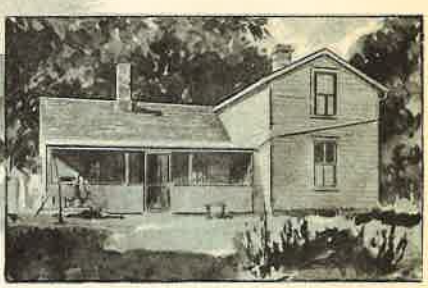
Mrs. Hoover was the first wife of a President to have public activities in her own right. She is deeply interested in the Girl Scouts, kept up that interest and took part in the affairs of the organization during the time she was in the White House just as much as she did before and does now. The Hoovers are noted for their hospitality, and an uninterrupted succession of guests for lunch, dinner, and even breakfast was the rule while they were in the White House. Often people were invited on the spur of the moment. There are stories of the con-

Construction of Presidential Fishing Camp on Rapidan River

sternation of the domestic staff when informed that at the next meal there would be thirty or more extra—and that meal only a few hours away!

Ex-President Hoover's Palo Alto Home

Birthplace of Herbert Hoover, West Branch, Iowa



The Second Roosevelt and the New Deal

Three times in the history of the United States a man related to and bearing the same surname as a former chief executive has become President. John Adams and John Quincy Adams were father and son, William Henry Harrison and Benjamin Harrison were grandfather and grandson, Theodore Roosevelt and Franklin Delano Roosevelt were fifth cousins. Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt is a niece of the first President Roosevelt.

Children and Grandchildren

Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt, like the Hoovers, brought to the White House numerous personal belongings with which they have made the private apartments cheerful and livable. Numerous ship pictures from the President's noteworthy collection line the walls in the upstairs hall and other rooms as well as drawings, photographs, and cartoons of every description. The spacious White House is none too large to hold the big family and numerous friends who are almost continuously there. There are five children, Anna, James, Elliott, Franklin, and John. Anna who is now Mrs. John Boettinger has

Residence of President Franklin D. Roosevelt at Hyde Park, New York

two children by her first husband, Curtis Dall, who are known popularly and affectionately as "Sistie" and "Buzzie." James, whose wife is the daughter of the celebrated Doctor Harvey Cushing, has two little girls, Sarah and Kate. Elliott has three children; Bill, the son of his marriage to the present Mrs. Donner Roosevelt, and a girl and boy, Ruth Chandler and Elliott, Jr. by his second wife, who was Miss Ruth Googins of Texas. The engagement of Franklin, Jr. was recently announced to Miss Ethel DuPont of the widely known Delaware family. John is at present a student at Harvard University.

Literally thousands of guests have enjoyed the hospitality of the White House every year for the past four years. Both the President and Mrs. Roosevelt have a genuine gift for informality which even tempers the stiffness of the official parties. Mrs. Roosevelt's active public career is quite as well known as Mr. Roosevelt's.

The President's second inaugural has just been celebrated so for four more years the White House has a host and hostess who have broken all records for entertaining and will undoubtedly continue to do so.

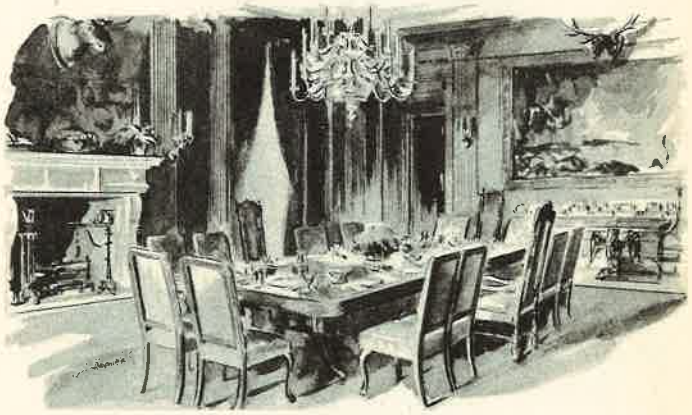
Alice Roosevelt Longworth

"Amberjack II" President Roosevelt's
"Vacation Ship of State"

The State Dining Room

The State Dining Room before Alterations.

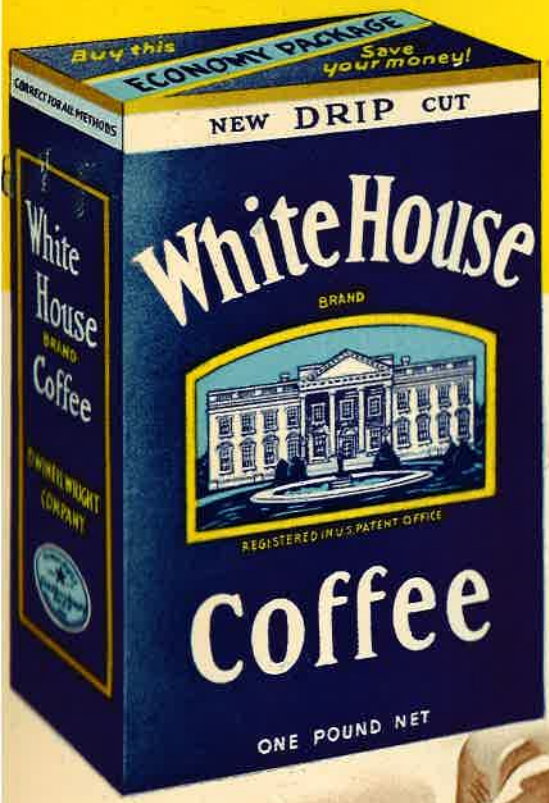
This Dining Room is the social Senate Chamber of the United States. Its functions rival, in influence and authority, the high tribunals of the country—especially in the dealings of the United States with foreign nations. In every home, as in the White House, the table is a most important factor. A witty diplomat has said, "A *woman* is known by the *coffee* she keeps." The happiness of any household depends more on the every day matters—seeming trifles—than on the big things of life. "But perfection is no trifle." In entertaining guests, or in the bosom of your own family, you can never have absolute perfection without WHITE HOUSE COFFEE.



"After the Coffee is Over."

The State Dining Room, remodeled

THE *New* ECONOMY PACKAGE



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